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# THE DIARY

OF

# SAMUEL PEPYS

*From November, 1666, to May, 1667.*

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## INTRODUCTION.

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SAMUEL PEPYS was writing this portion of his diary at a time when the course of events led on to the Peace of Breton, which ended war with the Dutch in July, 1667, within a few months of the date at which this volume was written. To see how the Peace was brought about, not only the absolute inability of England to maintain the war, but by the profligate king's conviction that he could not raise another penny by it for his own base pleasures. The House of Commons was wholly, openly, and manifestly distrustful of the king's good faith. It had laid checks upon the mis-application of the public money, and set on foot inquiries from which nearly every man into whose hands some part of the money came, flinched. The king, who, according to the estimate rendered, should have £900,000 in hand for the war service, was £900,000 behindhand. If the House of Commons met again to consider the question of the money, to all past evidences of the shame brought upon public service there would be added the disclosure that £1,800,000 had been embezzled by the base king's creatures and the dishonest members of his Government.



pleaded that his salary had been left unpaid, and had no more money of his own left to live with. Pepys tells of the King's musicians having being left five years unpaid, and of Evans, "having not his equal in the world, day die for mere want, and was fain to beg alms of the parish, and carried to his grave night without one link, but that Mr. Hincks, by chance, and did give 12d. to buy two links." Whenever the King walked in his own park, he met faces of men whom he was thus ruining.

The evidence of public corruption still appears in the Diary. Pepys did his work honestly, and took very great pains to keep the King and the public fully acquainted with the state of affairs. He worked through the watches of the night, and he thought necessary to the public service, proud of the credit he thus earned, of his capacity, and of the annual increase of his salary, quick rise from humble beginnings. He succeeded by making himself valuable, as a bee among flowers, and by tact in managing the great men, and not by mar him.

But every public office was a nest of corruption. When a naval war afoot the Admiralty had large sums of money at its disposal, and was probably the most

## INTRODUCTION.

by men lively to tell that he accepted it. Otter collects silver flagons and silver plates till he is able to invite great men to a dinner at which served upon silver; when every silver plate of a dozen has been a bribe, or part of a bribe. He was honest, as his world went, and he never bribed his duty to the king. When the people were severely squeezed by a Poll Tax, that caught things and their possessions in every direction, where things were being thrown up, and thousands were being thrown down, Pepys, like his neighbours, escaped from a large part of the payment by evading just returns. Having five thousand pounds of cash in possession, and knowing there would be tax to pay, he notes that he had better not to acknowledge and pay tax for a thousand, than that City men, who possessed much more money than he, and nothing, he would not be so rude as to suggest to them by setting a different example.

Within this period we have also the frequent mention of the wilderness left by the Fire of London. Pepys is sitting in his hackney coach with a drawn sword in his hand when he crosses after dark; fresh outbreaks from the cellars; smoke rising here and there, even after the great fire itself; and still the suggestion of the terror of the fire in the lasting impression on Pepys' mind, his dreams of fire, and dread of fire.

see was the young ladies of the school great store very pretty." There is his clothes for himself and for his wife, and Mrs. Pepys appears unexpectedly in light him "horrid angry" with a short petticoat that he could not endure to see her. There is a "convention" with his wife that when Knipp or any other pretty woman appears to her as much. There are the plays, including *Maiden Queen*, the chief new play of the time, and the meetings of the men of science, and on the transfusion of blood. There are the historical persons of the time which include their *valets de chambre* and to the friends nobody can save them; there are the fashions of the street, and there is a bright little sketch of a bear-garden that explains very clearly how entertainment became a bye-word for transfusion.

The picture of England in the days of the Second, and of the King's Court, as it was received, in the record of the months from 1666, to May 30th, 1667, many lively details was not within Pepys' experience to see. On the 27th of April, 1667, signing an agreement for the "disseise Lost," to Samuel Simmons for £5,

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*November 1st, 1666.* Up, and was presented by Burton, one of our smiths' wives, with a very noble cake, which I presently resolved to have my wife go with to-day, and some wine, and house-warm my Betty Michell, which she readily resolv'd to do. From dinner, my wife and my brother, and W. Hewer and Barker, away to Betty Michell's, to Shadwell.

2nd. On board the *Ruby*, French prize, the only ship of war we have taken from any of our enemies this year. It seems a very good ship, but with galleries quite round the stern, to walk in as a balcony, which will be taken down. She has also about forty good brass guns, but will make little amends to our loss in

so fine as I expected; however, being very ingry. This, and the sheets of paper, cost me come to £3; and though it be m<sup>y</sup> lay out on pleasure, yet it being ingry think much of it.

4th (Lord's day.). My tailor's man came home, and coat to wear with it, and a hilted sword: so I rose and dressed myself mightily in it, and so does m<sup>y</sup> dressed, to church; and after church, I sent Pen and Mrs. Markham into my house. Sir J. Minnes he got Mrs. Pegg alone, and had a good dinner for them, and very it being very cold, to Whitehall, and fearful of an ague, my vest being new, the coat cut not to meet before upon my in the gallery till the Council was up, with Mr. Cooling, my Lord Chamberlain, who tells me my Lord General is become in all people's opinion, and that he has several slurs from the King and D<sup>utch</sup>.

with nobody but Troutbecke, whom nobody  
 keep company with, of whom he told me this  
 once the Duke of Albemarle, in his dr  
 notice as of a wonder, that Nan<sup>e</sup> Hide should  
 to be Duchess of York: "Nay," says  
 "ne'er wonder at that; for if you will give  
 bottle of wine, I will tell you as great, if no  
 miracle." And what was that, but that "our  
 (meaning his Duchess), should come to  
 of Albemarle"? Sir G. Carteret shows  
 letter, all in cipher, from my Lord Sandwich.  
 The contents he hath not yet found out,  
 me my Lord is not sent for home, as sev  
 have inquired after me. Begun to read  
 Discourse upon 666," which pleases me mi

5th. To my Lady Peterborough, who  
 speak with me. She makes mighty moan  
 ness of the times, and her family as to m  
 Lord's passionateness for want thereof, an  
 of coming in of rents, and no wages from  
 York. No money to be had there, for wa

my expectation, I met my Lord H. come to town two days since from . . . brought his sister and brother Carteret are at Sir G. Carteret's. After Thomas Crewe went aside to . . . matters, and do find by him that the gentlemen are publicly jealous of the Parliamēt, and that they do do . . . they propose; and that the true country gentlemen are for a land general excise, is, because they are . . . latter be granted, they shall never . . . whereas the land-tax will be but . . . when the war ceases, there will . . . by the Court to keep it up. I . . . would be very glad to get something . . . Carteret, and will not let their in . . . have got something. He do, from . . . at the Committee for examining . . . City, conclude it, as a thing certain . . . by plots: it being proved by many

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tenants, who are, in their leases, all of them general-  
ly tied to maintain and uphold their houses, shall bear  
loss of the fire; and they say that tenants should, against  
all casualties of fire, beginning either in their own  
in their neighbour's [premises]; but, where it is done  
by an enemy, they are not to do it. And this was  
an enemy, there having been one convicted and hanged  
upon this very score. This is an excellent salvo  
to the tenants, and for which I am glad, because of  
my father's house. After dinner and this discourse  
I took coach, and at the same time find my Lord H  
Chingbroke and Mr. John Crewe and the doctor go  
out to see the ruins of the City; so I took the doctor  
into my hackney-coach, and he is a very fine so-  
ber gentleman, and so through the City. But, Lord  
made what pretty and sober observations he made of  
the City and its desolation; till anon we came to  
my house, and there I took them upon Tower Hill to shew  
them what houses were pulled down there since the  
fire; and then to my house, where I treated them



and see the play at Court  
 • I should get home be-  
 lateness of the night to  
 • but having this evening  
 is come to town, and  
 heard how Mr. John Pic-  
 week, and to a fortune  
 necklace of pearl and tw  
 Sir G. Carteret hath  
 • coming to town, I hope  
 bonfire through the who  
 wall, which is strange,  
 disposition of the City a  
 was said of, and feare  
 Papists, than just at this

6th. After dinner done  
 reading "Duchess of Ma  
 good. At night home,  
 who supped with us, and

7th. Called at Faithorn  
 wife to draw by this win  
 Castlemaine's picture d

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day, in his chamber, they have it at Court, as well as here, that a fatal day is to be expected shortly, of some great mischief; whether by the Papists, or what, they are not certain. But the day is disputed; some say next Friday, others a day sooner, others later; and I hope all will prove a foolery. But it is observable how everybody's fears are busy at this time.

8th. I to Westminster Hall, and there met Mr. Grey, who tells me that the House is sitting still, and now it was six o'clock, and likely to sit till midnight, and have proceeded fair to give the King his supply presently; and hereina have done more to-day than was hoped for. Sir W. Coventry did this night tell me how the business is about Sir J. Minnes; that he is to be a Commissioner, and my Lord Brouncker and Sir W. Pen are to be Comptroller jointly, which I am very glad of, and better than if they were either of them alone; and do hope truly that the King's business will be better done thereby, and infinitely better than now it is. Mr. Grey did assure me this night, that he will

9th. To Mrs. Pierce's, by appointment to find good company; a fair lady, Mrs. Corbet, Knipp; and for men, Mr. Lloyd, Sir W. Coventry's clerk, Tripp, who dances well. After dancing, Knipp and I to sing, and Mr. Downing, who loves and understands all means have my song of "Bea Knipp had spread abroad, and he the first thing he ever heard. Going to dance comes news that Whitehall was on fire. For more particulars, that the Horse-guardians and so we ran up to the garret, and saw a great fire; and by-and-by we saw a house blown up with powder. The ladies were all be afraid, one fell into fits. The alarm. Drums beat and trumpet sounded, and guards every where spread, running down the street. And I began to have misgivings how things might be, for we are in common fame, this night, or to-morrow, by the happiness many find

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then we were a little cheered up again, and pretty merry. But, above all, there was a dumb boy that I knew in Oliver's time, was acquainted here, and with Downing; and strange signs of the fire, and how the King had said many things they understood, but which I wondered at, and discoursing about it. "Why," says he, "it is only as you will understand him, and make him tell you with as much ease as may be." So I told him that I was afraid that my coachman had stolen the coach, and that he should go down and steal it out of the coach and keep it, and that we would let the coachman to stay. He did this, so that he did go down, and like a cunning rogue, out of the coach, pretending to sleep; and, by-and-by, he found the seats nailed to the coach, but could not do it; however, stayed there, till the coachman's patience was so much beat the dumb boy by force, and so was the dumb boy come up and told him

to go home on foot, and leave the  
And so did: but at the Savoy, got a  
back and took up the women; and  
people come from the fire, understood  
overcome and all well, we merrily pa  
Stopped by several guards and constabl  
the town, round the wall, as we we  
arms. Being come home, we to cards  
morning, and drinking lamb's-wool. S

10th. The Parliament did fall foul  
again yesterday; and we must arm t  
amined, which I am sorry for; it v  
trouble to me, and shame upon the o  
Lord Brouncker and Sir Thomas H  
house, and there Mrs. Williams and  
and an excellent dinner. Mr. Temp  
dinner, fell to play on the harpsichon,  
everybody, that I left the house witho  
and no creature left standing by her to  
an hour, to make an end of Potter's I

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says, and everybody else discourses, that she is poisoned; and Creed tells me, that it is said that there hath been a design to poison the King. What the meaning of all these sad signs is, the Lord only knows; but every day things look worse and worse. God fit us for the worst!

11th. (Lord's-day.) To church, myself and wife, where the old dunce Meriton, of St. Martin's, Westminster, did make a very good sermon, beyond my expectation. To my uncle Wight's, and their entertainment so bad, that I am in pain to be there. Wooly's wife, a silly woman, and not very handsome, but no spirit in her at all; and their discourse mean, and the fear of the troubles of the times hath made them not to bring their plate to town, since it was carried out upon the business of the fire, so that they drink in earth and a wooden can, which I do not like.

12th. Creed tells me of my Lady Denham, whom everybody says is poisoned, and she hath said it to the Duke of York; but is upon the mending hand, though

ready to drink to us, his butler being  
though we know him to be a very liberal  
my wife out, intending to have gone  
my Lady Jemima, at Whitehall, but  
there was at the New Exchange, that was  
in half an hour, and therefore 'light,  
My wife and all the maids [being]  
whom I put confidence in—she and I,  
and Tom and W. Hewer, did bring up a  
of my money, and my plate chest, but  
placed the money in my study, with the  
plate in my dressing-room; but indeed  
pain to think how to dispose of my  
wholly unsafe to keep it all in coin in  
and I did stop, the Duke of York being  
away from seeing of it, at Paul's, a  
vocation-House-Yard did there see the  
Braybrooke, Bishop of London, that did  
fell down in the tomb out of the great  
Faith's this late fire, and is here seen  
the flesh on; but all tough and dry, like  
leather, or touchwood all upon his back  
turned aside. A great man in his  
Chancellor; and [his skeleton] now  
handled and derided by some, though  
duration by others. Many flocking to

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13th. To Bishopsgate Street, and there bought some drinking-glasses, a case of knives, and other things in expectation of my Lord Hinchinbroke's coming to dine with me. So home, and do here receive notice from my Lord Hinchinbroke that he is not well, and so not in condition to come, which I am not in much trouble for, because of the disorder my house is in by the bricklayers coming to mend the chimney in my dining-room for smoking, which they were up almost till midnight, and have now made it very pretty, and do carry smoke exceeding well. This evening come all the Houblons to me, to invite me to sup with them to-morrow night. I did take them home, and there we sat and talked a good while, and drank a glass of wine, and then parted till to-morrow night. So at night, well satisfied in the alteration of my chimney, I to bed.

14th. To Knipp's lodging, whom I find not ready to go home with me; and there stayed reading of Waller's verses, whilst she finished dressing, her husband



she and me alone at d  
that we could not put of  
great dinner of my Lord  
come. My wife and I in  
Jemima at Whitehall, b  
so full of coaches, eve  
thither to make themse  
night, we could not do an  
her brother. Sir G. Can  
my Lord Hollis had been  
in what a condition we a  
Lord Sandwich's letter  
lack of money, which S  
in the world to get the K  
wishes him for that reaso  
will be brought to disgra  
To the "Pope's Head,"  
and Dr. Croone. Dr.  
meeting at Gresham Col  
they now have every W  
pretty experiment of th  
he died, into the body of  
his own ran out on the  
upon the place, and the  
to do well. This did  
wishes, as of the blood o  
Archbishop, and such-li

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may, if it takes, be of mighty use to man's health, for the amending of bad blood by borrowing from a better body.

15th. To Mrs. Pierce's, where I find her as fine as possible, and Mr. Pierce going to the ball at night at Court, it being the Queen's birthday. I also to the ball, and with much ado got up to the loft, where with much trouble I could see very well. Anon the house grew full, and the candles light, and the King and Queen and all the ladies sat: and it was indeed a glorious sight to see Mrs. Stewart in black and white lace, and her head and shoulders dressed with diamonds, and the like many great ladies more, only the Queen none; and the King in his rich vest of some rich silk and silver trimming, as the Duke of York and all the dancers were, some of cloth of silver, and others of other sorts, exceeding rich. Presently after the King was come in, he took the Queen, and about fourteen more couple there were, and began the Bransles. A

all most excellently dressed in rich gowns, and diamonds and pearls. After then to a Corant, and now and then a but that so rare that the Corants grew wished it done. Only Mrs. Stewart finely, and many French dances, spe King called the New Dance, which wa but upon the whole matter, the business of itself was not extraordinary pleasing. and sight of the persons were indeed and worth my coming, being never like gallantry while I live, if I should come. About twelve at night it broke up.

•with my wife, who was displeased dancing, and satisfied with the clothe My Lady Castlemaine, without whom being there, very rich, though not dance

16th. This noon I met with Mr. Hood me the dog which was filled with another at the College the other day is very w

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but it will operate upon them to set all right and get money to carry on the war before or else lay out for a peace upon any terms of great convenience to-night that what I have written in shorthand, I could read it to W. H. take it fair in shorthand, so as I can read it to Sir W. Coventry, and then come home and read it to me while I take it in longhand which saves me much time.

18th. (Lord's day.) On foot to Whitehall. At my appointment I met Lord Brouncker at Sir W. Coventry's chamber, and there I read over my letter and they approved it: so I think it is as good as in the manner, and believe it is the best way of the matter of it, as ever come from any office. I showed it to Sir W. Batten. He was in a huff at first in light of, but he signed the letter, though he would not stay for it: so, making slip of it, Sir W. Pen's putting so much weight upon his

filled, and I sent them to Mrs. Martin. I promised some of my own, and having my own, sent her this. Took coach to there visited my Lady Pemima, at Sir Thomas Crew's lodgings. Here was Sir Thomas Crew how hot words grew again to-day in the Lords between my Lord Ossory and Ashley saying that something said by the other was one of Oliver's Council. Ashley said he would give reparation, or he would take it his own way; therefore did bring my Lord Ossory to fault, and ask pardon for it, as he did at Buckingham, for saying that something that my Lord Buckingham had said.

- 20th. To church, it being thanksgiving for the cessation of the plague; but, Lord! how they say that it is hastened before the plague is over there being some people still ill of it, but ground for plays to be publicly acted. The Bishops would not suffer till the plague was over.

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greatness of the business, and my Lord sleeping and snoring the greater part of the night.

21st. I to wait on Sir Philip Howard, dressing himself in his night-gown and Turk, but one of the finest persons that I saw in my life. He had several gentlemen of his own household, and one playing finely on the guitar, and singing the best of the French courses as well as ever I heard man, in French and Italian, and very handsome. He expressed all kindness to me, and said that when he comes to be mustered again, he must bring with him a great number of witnesses of his swearing the oaths of Allegiance and Fidelity, and having taken the Sacrament, and the rites of the Church of England. That is imposed on all.

22nd. My Lord Brouncker did show me a print of the City, with a pretty representation of the part which is burnt, very fine indeed; that he was yesterday sworn the King's Council, and that the King hath commanded him to

and I hope our King will, if it be so, as he is: being told by one that came over from my Lady Fanshaw, who is come over with body of her husband, and that saw it before away. This makes me mighty merry, it be ingenious kind of affront; but yet it makes me see that the King of England is become so have the affront offered him. Batelier did some oysters to-night, and some bottles of wine of this year, mighty good, but I little.

23rd. Attended the Duke of York, where other things, we had a complaint of Sir Jennings's against his lieutenant, Le Neve had been long the Duke's page, and for whom of York hath great kindness. It was a quarrel, where one was as blamable as the other was referred to further examination, but the Duke declared, that as he would not favour drunkenness, so neither drunkenness. I spoke with

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raised, will be raised and put into the s  
the last, was, to come into the Exche  
aught I see, I must confess I think  
way.

24th. With Sir J. Minnes by coach  
the Trinity House, where it is kept a  
the burning of their other house in  
here a great many met at Sir Thomas A  
his being made an Elder Brother; but  
so could not be there. Here was much  
and very merry; but the discourse  
seems, is confirmed, and that they are 4  
arms, and do declare for King and Cov  
very ill news. I pray God deliver us f  
sequences we may justly fear from  
Warwick, I find, is full of trouble in  
how things go, and what our wants are  
no delight to trouble him with disc  
honour the man with all my heart, and  
be a very able, right-honest man. T  
printed discourse of witches by a mem



sermon, of our duty to imitate the lives, and of Christ and the Saints departed, and did handsomely and excellent still; but was a little large in magnifying the graces of the nobilities, that we have seen in our memories in whom God hath taken from us. At the end of the sermon an excellent anthem; but it was a little thing, an idle companion in our pew, a practical counsellor that hath been heretofore at the New Church, and noted for a great eater and drinker, notwithstanding, but of the best, his name, Tom Bales. "I know a fitter anthem for this sermon," speaking of our duty of following the saints, and I said what. "Cook should have sung, 'Come and follow me.'" To Sir G. Carteret's to dinner with much company. Among others, Mr. Carteret's Lady Jemima, and Mr. [John] Ashburnham, a great man, who is a pleasant man, and that is much of the world, and more of the Court. I was at Court, and attended there till the Council

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in Lord Treasurer, I was content the  
out. All the talk of Scotland, wh  
report, I perceive, runs but upon three  
d in arms; but they believe that it w  
and do seem to apprehend it much, as  
f France had a hand in it. My Lo  
does make nothing of it, it seems, a  
ensure him for it, he from the beginni  
there was nothing in it, whereas it d  
be a pure rebellion; but no persons  
g in it, all do hope that it cannot amo  
Here I saw Mrs. Stewart this afterno  
the beautifullest creature that ever I sav  
re than ever I thought her, so often a  
ner; and I do begin to think do exc  
astlemaine, at least now. This being  
day, the Queen was at mass by se  
morning; and, Mr. Ashburnham does  
er saw any one have so much zeal in his  
h: and, the question being asked by  
ret, much beyond the bigotry that ever

have her; my Lord Hinchbrooke was  
have her; my Lord John Butler might  
my Lord of Rochester would have force  
—— Popham, who nevertheless is like  
would do anything to have her.

26th. Into the house of Parliament,  
great Committee, I did hear, as long as  
great case against my Lord Mordaunt, in  
rary proceedings of his against one Ta  
imprisoned, and did all the violence  
only to get him to give way to his  
daughter. Here was Mr. Sawyer, my  
fellow, a counsel against my Lord; and  
see him in so good play. Here I met, b  
mittee sat, with my cousin Roger Pepys  
I have spoke with him this parliament.  
mised to come, and bring Madam Tur  
who is come to town to see the City, bu  
her goods of all-kinds in Salisbury Court  
Turner having not endeavoured, in her a  
one penny. to dine with me on Friday

broke, who promises to dine with me to-morrow, and to bring Mr. Carteret along with him. To-morrow I shall see Mr. Crewe, and had some good discourse with him, he being not doubting that all will break in pieces in the end, and that the taxes now coming out, which will be the same man in three or four several capacities, of land, office, profession, and money at interest, will be the hardest that ever came out; and do that they will owe it, and the lateness of its being given, will be the unpreparedness of the King's own party to meet their demand and choice; for they have not been used to the giving it by land-tax, which had been the way since. Having ended my visit, I spoke to Mr. Crewe, to invite him and his brother John to-morrow; and so homewards, calling at Mr. [unclear] who is to dress it, to bespeak him; and then at Mr. [unclear] there set things in order for a very fine dinner.

28th. To Whitehall; where, though it rained, and rains hard, yet the Duke of York was out hunting. We therefore lost our labour, and did not get things ready against dinner at home:

sermon, of our duty to imitate the lives of Christ and the Saints departed, and d handsomely and excellent still; but was a large in magnifying the graces of the nobili lates, that we have seen in our memories in whom God hath taken from us. At the sermon an excellent anthem; but it was thing, an idle companion in our pew, a p counsellor that hath been heretofore at the M and noted for a great eater and drinker, not tity, but of the best, his name, Tom Bale know a fitter anthem for this sermon," spe of our duty of following the saints, and what. "Cook should have sung, 'Co follow me.'" To Sir G. Carteret's to din much company. Among others, Mr. Carter Lady Jemima, and Mr. [John] Ashbur great man, who is a pleasant man, and tha much of the world, and more of the Court Court and attended there till the Council

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perceive, of my Lord Treasurer, I was come with, and went out. All the talk of Scotland the highest report, I perceive, runs but upon four hundred in arms; but they believe grow more, and do seem to apprehend it. The King of France had a hand in it. Lauderdale does make nothing of it, it is said; but the people do censure him for it, he from them saying that there was nothing in it, where it appears to be a pure rebellion; but no quality being in it, all do hope that it can be brought to much. Here I saw Mrs. Stewart this morning, methought the beautifullest creature that I ever saw in my life, more than ever I thought her, so much as I have seen her; and I do begin to think her more than my Lady Castlemaine, at least now. This morning, Catherine's day, the Queen was at mass at nine o'clock this morning; and, Mr. Ashburnham says, that he never saw any one have so much zeal as she hath: and, the question being asked, whether she was not the best of the world, he answered, that she was.

dinner, and then broke up with great pleasure, especially to myself; and they away, only I and I to Gresham College, where they met weekly again, and here they had good discourse of this late experiment of the dog, which I hope in good health, may be improved for good use. Here was Mr. Henry Howard, that will be Duke of Norfolk, who is admitted this year into the Society, and being a very proud man, and who values himself upon his family, writes his name does everywhere, Henry Howard of Norfolk.

29th. I late at the office, and all the night put into a letter this night to my Lord of Chatham, thus:—

“I doubt not of your Lordship’s hearing of Thomas Clifford’s succeeding Sir H. Poynette in the Comptrollership of the King’s house; but I am ill, but confirmed, tidings from the Barbadoes have reached you yet, it coming but yesterday that about eleven ships, whereof two of the *Hope* and *Coventry*, going thence with m

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nel, in order to meet with our Smyrna ships.  
I hear do fright us with the King of Sweden  
our mast-ships at Gottenburgh. But v  
much ill news true, to afflict ourselves v  
uncertain. That which I hear from Sco  
Duke of York's saying, yesterday, that he  
the Lieutenant-General there hath driven  
pound, somewhere towards the mountains.

"To show how mad we are at home, he  
for any troubles: my Lord St. John did, a  
since, openly pull a gentleman in Westm  
by the nose, one Sir Andrew Henly, while  
were upon their benches, and the other ge  
give him a rap over the pate with his ca  
fray the Judges, they say, will make a g  
men are only sorry the gentleman did pr  
turn a blow; for, otherwise, my Lord wou  
soundly fined for the affront, and may be  
affront to the Judges."

30th. To Whitehall, and pretty to see,  
Andrew's day, how some few did wear S



only of log-wood, that hath kept th  
in it. Going further, I met my  
Bludworth, under whom the City  
Lord! the silly talk that this sil  
how ready he would be to part wi  
these difficult times, to advocate  
and complaining that now, as ever  
the fire, everybody endeavours to s  
the whole perish: but a very wea  
be. By coach home, in the even  
thorne's, buying three of my Lady C  
printed this day, which indeed, is  
think, a very fine picture, and lik  
afternoon get Mrs. Michell to let m  
of a pamphlet lately printed, but su  
called after, called, "The Cat  
lamenting the severity of the Parli  
and comparing it with the lenity  
Protestants; giving old and late  
loyalty to their princes, whatever  
them and excusing their disonests i

their Church, nor indeed known by them ; and ended with a large catalogue, in red letters, of the Catholics which have lost their lives in the quarrel of the late King and this. The thing is very well writ indeed.

2nd. (Lord's day.) My wife and I to Mr. Martin's where find the company almost all come to the christening of Mrs. Martin's child, a girl. A great deal of good plain company. After sitting long till the church was done, the parson comes, and then we to christen the child. I was godfather, and Mrs. Holder her husband, a good man I know well, and a pretty lady, that waits, it seems, on my Lady Bath, at Whitehall, her name Mrs. Noble, were godmothers. After the christening comes in the wine and the sweetmeats and then to prate and tattle, and then very good company they were, and I among them. Here was old Mrs. Michell and Howlett, and several of the married women of the Hall, whom I knew maids. Here was also Mrs. Burroughs and Mrs. Bales, the young widow whom I led home, and having stayed till the moon

Sir W. Batten's, and there I hear more fill that all our New England fleet, which were are put back a third time by foul weather dispersed, some to one port and some to another their convoys also to Plymouth; and whether they be lost or not, we do not know. The rest, do lay us flat in our hopes and everybody prophesying destruction to the nation.

3rd. Up, and, among a great number of people that come to speak with me, one was my Lord of Dorset's gentleman, who comes to me to demand some money advanced for my Lord; and I tell him what news, he tells me that at Court there is great fear the business of Scotland more and more, that the Duke of York intends to go to the North with an army, and that the King would have some nobility and others to go and assist; but that he served the last year, among others his Lordship, with forces at their own charge, for fear of the Scots invading us, that they will not be got out of the money advanced to them by the King, and

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Edinburgh, and there given two or three re  
the King's forces, but at last were mastered  
or four hundred killed or taken, among wh  
leader, Wallace, and seven ministers, they h  
taken the Covenant a few days before, and  
live and die in it, as they did; and so all is  
be there quiet again. There is also the v  
news come of four New England ships co  
safe to Falmouth with masts for the King;  
a blessing mighty unexpected, and without  
for nothing else, we must have failed the r  
But God be praised, for thus much good  
and send us the continuance of his favour  
things.

6th. After dinner, my wife and brother, i  
habit, go out to see a play; but I am no  
notice that I know of my brother's going.  
in the *Gazette*, is the whole story of defeating  
Scotch rebels, and of the creation of the Duk  
bridge Knight of the Garter.

looking over and tearing and burning all the unnecessary letters, which I have had upon my file for four and five years backward, which I intend to go quite through all my papers, that I may have nothing by me but what is worth keeping, and fit to be seen, if I should miscarry.

10th. Captain Cocke, with whom I walked in the garden, tells me how angry the Court is at the late proviso brought in by the House. How still my Lord Chancellor is, not daring to do or say anything to displease the Parliament; that the Parliament is in a very ill humour, and grows every day more and more so; and that the unskilfulness of the Court, and their difference among one another, is the occasion of all not agreeing in what they would have, and so they give leisure and occasion to the other part to run away with what the Court would not have.

11th. To St. Clement's Church, to Mrs. Turner's lodgings hard by, to take our leaves of her. She is returning to the north to her children, whereby, I perceive, her husband hath clearly got the mastery of her, and she is likely to spend her days there. Here were several people come to see and take leave of her, she going to-morrow: among others, my Lady Mordaunt, which was Betty Turner, a most homely widow, but young, and pretty rich, and good-natured. This day the Poll Bill was to be passed, and great endeavours used to take away the proviso.

12th. Sir H. Cholmly did with grief tell me how the Parliament hath been told plainly that the King hath been heard to say, that he would dissolve them rather, than pass this bill with the proviso; but tells me that the proviso is removed, and now carried that it shall be done by a Bill by itself. He tells me how the King hath lately paid above £30,000, to clear debts of my Lady Castlemaine's: and that she and her husband are parted for ever, upon good terms, never to trouble one another more. He says that he hears £400,000 hath gone into the Privy-purse since this war; and that it is that hath consumed so much of our money, and makes the King and Court so mad to be brought to discover it. The very good news is just come of our four ships from Smyrna, come safe without convoy even into the Downs, without seeing any enemy; which is the best, and indeed only considerable good news to our Exchange since the burning of the City; and it is strange to see how it do cheer up men's hearts. Here I saw shops now come to be in this Exchange, and met little Batelier, who sits here but at £3 per annum, whereas he sat at the other at £100, which he says he believes will prove of as good account to him now, as the other did at that rent. From the 'Change to Captain Cocke's, and there, by agreement, dined, and there was Charles Porter, Temple, Fenn, Debasty, whose bad English and pleasant discourse was exceeding good entertainment, Matt. Wren. Major

Cooper, and myself, mighty merry and pretty discourse. They talk for certain, that now the King do follow Mrs. Stewart wholly, and my Lady Castlemaine not above once a week; that the Duke of York do not haunt my Lady Denham so much; that she troubles him with matters of State, being of my Lord Bristol's faction, and that he avoids; that she is ill still. News this day from Brampton, of Mr. Ensum, my sister's sweetheart, being dead; a clown.

13th. Met Captain Cocke, and had a second time his direction to bespeak £100 of plate, which I did at Sir R. Viner's, being twelve plates more, and something else I have to choose. W. Hewer dined with me, and showed me a *Gazette*, in April last, which I wonder should never be remembered by any body, which tells how several persons were then tried for their lives, and were found guilty of a design of killing the King and destroying the government, and as a means to it, to burn the City; and that the day intended for the plot was the 3rd of last September. And the fire did indeed break out on the 2nd of September, which is very strange, methinks, and I shall remember it. Sir W. Warren and Mr. Moore both tell me that my Lord Sandwich is called home, and that he do grow more and more in esteem everywhere, and is better spoken of.

14th. By coach to Whitehall, seeing many smokes of the fire by the way yet, and took up into the coach

with me a country gentleman, who asked me room to go with me, it being dirty—one come out of the north to see his son, after the burning of his house: a merchant here. Endeavoured to wait on the Duke of York, but he would not stay from the Parliament. Met my good friend Mr. Evelyn, and walked with him a good while, lamenting our condition for want of good counsel, and the King's minding of his business and servants. The House sat till three o'clock, and then up; and I home with Sir Stephen Fox to his house to dinner, and the Cofferer with us. There I find Sir F. Fox's lady, a fine woman, and seven the prettiest children of theirs that ever I knew almost. A very genteel dinner, and in great state and fashion, and excellent discourse; and nothing like an old experienced man and a courtier, and such is the Cofferer Ashburnham. The House have been mighty hot today against the Paper Bill, showing all manner of averseness to give the King money, which these courtiers do take mighty notice of, and look upon the others as bad rebels as ever the last were. But the courtiers did carry it against those men upon a division of the House, a great many, that it should be committed; and so it was: which they reckon good news. Home, where I found Foundes his present, of a fair pair of candlesticks, and half a dozen of plates come, which cost him full £50, and is a very pretty present; and here I met with, sealed up, from Sir H.



Cholmly, the lampoon, or the Mocke Advice to a Painter, abusing the Duke of York and my Lord Sandwich, Pen, and everybody, and the King himself, and all the matters of the navy and war. I am sorry for my Lord Sandwich's having so great a part in it.

15th. To the office, where my Lord Brouncker, newly come to town from his being at Chatham and Harwich to spy enormities; and at noon I met with him and his lady, Williams, to Captain Cocke's, where a good dinner, and very merry. Good news to-day upon the Exchange, that our Hamburgh fleet is got in; and good hopes that we may soon have the like of our Gottenburgh, and then we shall be well for this winter. And by-and-by comes in Matt Wren from the Parliament-house, and tells us that he and all his party of the House, which is the Court party, are fools, and have been made so this day by the wise men of the other side; for, after the Court party had carried it yesterday so powerfully for the Paper Bill, yet now it is laid aside wholly, and to be supplied by a land tax; which it is true will do well, and will be the sooner finished, which was the great argument for the doing of it. But then it shows them fools, that they would not permit this to have been done six weeks ago, which they might have had. And next, they have parted with the Paper Bill, which, when once begun, might have proved a very good flower in the Crown as any there. So they are truly outwitted by the other side.

16th. (Lord's day.) To Whitehall, and there walked up and down to the Queen's side, and there saw my dear Lady Castlemaine, who continues admirable, methinks, and I do not hear but that the King is the same to her still as ever. Anon to Chapel, by the King's closet, and heard a very good anthem. Then with Lord Brouncker to Sir W. Coventry's chamber; and there we sat with him and talked. He is weary of anything to do, he says, in the Navy. He tells us this Committee of Accounts will inquire sharply into our office. To Sir P. Neale's chamber; Sir Edward Walker being there, and telling us how he hath lost many fine rolls of antiquity in heraldry by the late fire, but hath saved the most of his papers. Here was also Dr. Wallis, the famous scholar and mathematician; but he promises little. Lord Brouncker tells me, that he does not believe the Duke of York will go to sea again, though there are many about the King that would be glad of any occasion to take him out of the world, he standing in their ways; and seemed to mean the Duke of Monmouth, who spends his time the most viciously and idle of any man, nor will be fit for anything; yet he speaks as if it were not impossible but the King would own him for his son, and that there was a marriage between his mother and him; and that nothing can help us but the King's making a peace soon as he hath this money; and thereby putting himself out of debt, and so becoming a good husband, and

then he will neither need this nor any other till he can have one to his mind; for I can, as he says, be kept long good, but it spoils one another, and that therefore it is the practice of Kings to tell Parliaments what they do, and give them so long time to no longer.

17th. Comes Mr. Cæsar, and then Good what with one and the other, nothing but me this morning, to my content; and then that God Almighty hath put me into such the charge of all this. So out to the Church a little business, and then home, where musicians and Mr. Cooke come to see me to go along with my wife this afternoon. My wife well home in the evening from which I was glad of, it being cold and dark, having her necklace of pearl on, and none with her. Spent the evening in fitting numbers have the number set upon each, in order to an alphabet of my whole, which will be so to me.

18th. I hear the ill news that poor Battishell, been born and bred a seaman, and brought from sea but yesterday, was, going down his ship, drowned in the Thames, which is true and do make me afraid, and will do, ever I was.

19th. Talked of the King's family with Mr. Hingston the organist. He says many of the music are ready to starve, they being five years behind-hand for their wages: nay, Evans the famous man upon the harp, having not his equal in the world, did the other day die for mere want, and was fain to be buried at the alms of the parish, and carried to his grave in the dark at night without one link, but that Mr. Hingston met it by chance, and did give 12*d.* to buy two or three links. Thence I up to the Lords' House to inquire for my Lord Bellassis; and there hear how at a conference this morning between the two Houses about the business of the Canary Company, my Lord Buckingham leaning rudely over my Lord Marquis Dorchester, my Lord Dorchester removed his elbow. Duke of Buckingham asked him whether he was uneasy; Dorchester replied yes, and that he durst not do this were he anywhere else: Buckingham replied, yes he would, and that he was a better man than himself; Dorchester said that he lied. With this Buckingham struck off his hat, and took him by his periwig and pulled it aside, and held him. My Lord Chamberlain and others interposed, and upon coming into the House, the Lords did order them both to the Tower, whither they are to go this afternoon. I down into the Hall, and there the Lieutenant of the Tower took me with him, and would have me to the Tower to dinner; where I dined at the head of his table, next

his lady, who is comely and seeming sober and stately, but very proud and very cunning, or I am mistaken, and wanton too. This day's work will bring the Lieutenant of the Tower £350. Thence home, and upon Tower Hill saw about 300 or 400 seamen got together; and one, standing upon a pile of bricks, made his sign with his handkerchief upon his stick, and called all the rest to him, and several shouts they gave. This made me afraid; so I got home as fast as I could. But by-and-by Sir W. Batten and Sir R. Ford do tell me, that the seamen have been at some prisons, to release some seamen, and the Duke of Albemarle is in arms, and all the guards at the other end of the town; and the Duke of Albemarle is gone with some forces to Wapping, to quell the seamen; which is a thing of infinite disgrace to us. I sat long talking with them; and among other things, Sir R. Ford makes me understand how the House of Commons is a beast not to be understood, it being impossible to know beforehand the success almost of any small plain thing, there being so many to think and speak to any business, and they of so uncertain minds and interests and passions. He did tell me, and so did Sir W. Batten, how Sir Allen Brodericke and Sir Allen Apsly did come drunk the other day into the House, and did both speak for half an hour together, and could not be either laughed, or pulled, or bid to sit down and hold their peace, to the great contempt of the King's

servants and cause; which I am grieved at with all my heart.

30th. Home to dinner, where was Balty come, who well again. Here dined with me also Mrs. Batters, or woman! now left a sad widow by the drowning of her husband the other day. I pity her, and will do what kindness I can. Out with Balty, setting him down at the "Maypole" in the Strand.

21st. I spent all the afternoon in putting some things, pictures especially, in order, and pasting my Lady Castlemaine's print on a frame, which I have made handsome, and is a fine piece.

22nd. News from Hogg that our ship hath brought a Lubecker to Portsmouth, likely to prove a prize, deals.

23rd. (Lord's day.) To church, where a vain fellow with a periwig preached, chaplain. as by his prayer appeared, to the Earl of Carlisle.

24th. It being frost and dry, as far as Paul's, and so back again through the city by Guildhall, observing the ruins thereabouts, till I did truly lose myself. In the morning did buy me a pair of green spectacles, to see whether they will help my eyes or no. So to the Exchange, and went to the Upper 'Change, which is almost as good as the old one; only shops are but on one side. No news yet of our Gottenburgh fleet; which makes us have some fears, it being of mighty concernments to have our supply of masts safe. I

met with Mr. Cade to-night, my stationer; and he tells me that he hears for certain that the Queen-Mother is about, and hath near finished a peace with France, which as a Presbyterian he does not like, but seems to fear it will be a means to introduce Popery.

25th. (Christmas day.) Lay pretty long in bed, and then rose, leaving my wife desirous to sleep, having sat up till four this morning seeing her maids make mince-pies. I to church, where our parson Mills made a good sermon. Then home, and dined well on some good ribs of beef roasted, and mince-pies; only my wife, brother, and Barker, and plenty of good wine of my own, and my heart full of true joy; and thanks to God Almighty for the goodness of my condition at this day. After dinner, I begun to teach my wife and Barker my song, "It is decreed," which pleases me mightily. Walked alone on foot to the Temple, thinking to have seen a play all alone; but there, missing of any bills, concluded there was none, and so back home; and there with my brother reducing the names of all my books to an alphabet, and then to supper and to bed.

26th. To the Duke's house, to a play. It was indifferently done, Gosnell not singing, but a raw wench that sings naughtily. Thence home, and there Mr. Andrews to the viol, who plays most excellently on it. Thence to dance, here being Pembleton come by my

wife's direction, and a fiddler; and we got, also, the elder Batelier to-night, and Nan Wright, and mighty merry we were, and danced; and so till twelve at night, and to supper, and then to cross purposes, mighty merry, and then to bed.

27th. Up; and called up by the King's trumpets, which cost me 10s. By coach to the King's playhouse, and there saw *The Scornful Lady* well acted; Doll Common doing Abigail most excellently, and Knipp the widow very well, and will be an excellent actor I think. In other parts the play not so well done as used to be by the old actors. This day a house or two was blown up with powder in the Minories, and several people spoiled, and many dug out from under the rubbish.

28th. I to my Lord Crewe's, where I find and hear the news, how my Lord's brother, Mr. Nathaniel Crewe, hath an estate of £600 or £700 per annum, left him by the death of an old acquaintance of his, but not akin to him at all. And this man is dead without will, but had, about ten years since, made over his estate to this Mr. Crewe, to him and his heirs for ever, and given Mr. Crewe the keeping of the deeds in his own hand all this time; by which, if he would, he might have taken present possession of the estate, for he knew what they were. This is as great an action of confident friendship as this latter age, I believe, can show. From hence to the Duke's House, and



there saw *Macbeth* most excellently acted, and a most excellent play for variety. I had sent for my wife to meet me there, who did come: so I did go to Whitehall, and got my Lord Bellasis to get me into the playhouse; and there, after all staying above an hour for the players, the King and all waiting, which was absurd, saw *Henry the Fifth* well done by the Duke's people, and in most excellent habits, all new vests, being put on but this night. But I sat so high and far off that I missed most of the words, and sat with a wind coming into my back and neck, which did much trouble me. The play continued till twelve at night; and then up, and a most horrid cold night it was, and frosty, and moonshine.

29th. Called up with news from Sir W. Batten that Hogg hath brought in two prizes more: and so I thither and hear the particulars, which are good; one of them, if prize, being worth £4,000: for which God be thanked! Then to the office, and have the news brought us of Captain Robinson's coming with his fleet from Gottenburgh: dispersed, though, by foul weather. But he hath light of five Dutch men-of-war, and taken three, whereof one is sunk; which is very good news to close up the year with, and most of our merchant men already heard of to be safely come home, though after long lookings-for, and now to several ports, as they could make them.

30th. (Lord's day.) To church. Here was a collec-

on for the sexton; but it came into my head why we could be more bold in making the collection while the hymn is singing, than in the sermon or prayer.

31st. To my accounts, wherein, at last, I find them near and right; but, to my great discontent, do find that my gettings this year have been £573 less than my last: it being this year in all but £2,986; whereas the last I got £3,560. And then again my spendings this year have exceeded my spendings the last by £644: my whole spendings last year being but £509; whereas this year, it appears, I have spent £1,154, which is a sum not fit to be said that ever I should spend in one year, before I am master of a better estate than I am. Yet, blessed be God! and I pray God make me thankful for it, I do find myself worth in money, all good, above £6,200; which is above £1,800 more than I was the last year. Thus ends this year of public wonder and mischief to this nation, and, therefore, generally wished by all people to have an end. Myself and family well, having four maids and one clerk, Tom, in my house, and my brother, now with me, to spend time in order to his preferment. Our health all well, public matters in a most sad condition; seamen discouraged for want of pay, and are become not to be governed: nor, as matters are now, can any fleet go out next year. Our enemies, French and Dutch, great, and grow more by our poverty. The Parliament backward in raising, because jealous of the spending of the money; the City

less and less likely to be built again, everybody settling elsewhere, and nobody encouraged to trade. A sad, vicious, negligent Court, and all sober men there fearful of the ruin of the whole kingdom this next year; from which, good God deliver us! One thing I reckon remarkable in my own condition is, that I am come to abound in good plate, so as at all entertainments to be served wholly with silver plates, having two dozen and a half.

*January 1st, 1667.* Lay long, being a bitter, cold, frosty day, the frost being now grown old, and the Thames covered with ice.

2nd. My wife up, and with Mrs. Pen to walk in the fields, to frostbite themselves. I found the Court full of great apprehensions of the French, who have certainly shipped landmen, great numbers, at Brest; and most of our people here guess his design for Ireland. We have orders to send all the ships we can possible to the Downs, every day bringing us news of new mutinies among the seamen; so that our condition is like to be very miserable. Mr. George Montagu tells me of the King displeasing the House of Commons by evading their Bill for examining Accounts, and putting it into a Commission, though therein he hath left out Coventry and ———, and named all the rest the Parliament named, and all country lords, not one courtier: this does not please them. He finds the enmity almost over for my Lord Sandwich.

Up to the Painted Chamber, and there heard a conference between the House of Lords and Commons about the Wine Patent; which I was exceedingly glad to be at, because of my hearing exceeding good discourses, but especially from the Commons; among others, Mr. Swinfen, and a young man, one Sir Thomas Meres; and do outdo the Lords infinitely. Alone to the King's House, and there saw the *Custom of the Country*, the second time of its being acted, wherein Knipp does the Widow well; but, of all the plays that ever I did see, the worst—having neither plot, language, nor anything in the earth that is acceptable; only Knipp sings a song admirably.

3rd. By invitation to dinner to Sir W. Pen's, where my Lord Brouncker, Sir W. Batten, and his lady, myself, and wife, Sir J. Minnes, and Mr. Turner. Indifferent merry, to which I contributed the most, but a mean dinner, and in a mean manner. This day, I hear, hath been a conference between the two Houses about the Bill for examining accounts, wherein the House of Lords their proceedings in petitioning the King for doing it by Commission are, in great heat, voted by the Commons, after the conference, unparliamentary.

4th. Comes our company to dinner; my Lord Brouncker, Sir W. Pen, his lady, and Pegg, and her servant, Mr. Lowther. I had good room for ten, and no more would my table have held well, had Sir J.

Minnes, who had fallen lame, and his sister, and niece, and Sir W. Batten come, which was a great content to me to be without them. I did make them all gaze to see themselves served so nobly in plate, and a neat dinner, indeed, though but of seven dishes. My Lady Batten home, her ague-fit coming on her at table. At night to sup, and then to cards; and, last of all, to have a fagon of ale and apples drunk out of a wood cup, as a Christmas draught, which made all merry; and they full of admiration at my plate. Mr. Loather a pretty gentleman, too good for Pegg. Sir W. Pen was much troubled to hear the song I sung, "The New Droll"—it touching him home.

5th. With my wife to the Duke's house, and there saw *Mustapha*, a most excellent play.

6th. (Lord's day.) To church, where a dull doctor, a stranger, made a dull sermon. Young Michell and I, it being an excellent frosty day, did walk out. He showed me the baker's house in Pudding Lane, where the late great fire began: and thence all along Thames Street, where I did view several places, and so up by London Wall, by Blackfriars, to Ludgate; and thence to Bridewell, which I find to have been heretofore an extraordinary good house; and a fine coming to it, before the house by the bridge was built; and so to look about St. Bride's church and my father's house, and so walked home.

7th. Lord Brouncker tells me that my Lady Denham

is at last dead. Some suspect her poisoned, but it will be best known when her body is opened to-day, she dying yesterday morning. The Duke of York is troubled for her; but hath declared he will never have another public mistress again; which I shall be glad of, and would the King would do the like. He tells me how the Parliament is grown so jealous of the King's being unfair to them in the business of the Bill for examining Accounts, Irish Bill, and the business of the Papists, that they will not pass the business for money till they see themselves secure that those Bills will pass, which they do observe the Court to keep off till all the Bills come together, that the King may accept what he pleases, and what he pleases to object to. He tells me how Mr. Henry Howard, of Norfolk, hath given our Royal Society all his grandfather's library: which noble gift they value at £1,000; and gives them accommodation to meet in at his house, Arundel House, they being now disturbed at Gresham College. To the Duke's house, and saw *Macbeth*, which, though I saw it lately, yet appears a most excellent play in all respects, but especially in divertisement, though it be a deep tragedy; which is a strange perfection in a tragedy, it being most proper here, and suitable.

8th. My uncle Thomas with me to receive his quarterage. He tells me his son Thomas is set up in Smithfield, where he hath a shop—I suppose, a booth.

Saw the catalogue of my books, which my brother hath wrote out, now perfectly alphabetical.

9th. In a hackney-coach to Whitehall, the way being most horribly bad upon the breaking up of the frost, so as not to be passed almost. I do hear, by my Lord Brouncker, that for certain Sir W. Coventry hath resigned his place of Commissioner; which I believe he hath done upon good grounds of security to himself, from all the blame which must attend our office this next year; but I fear the King will suffer by it. Thence to Westminster Hall, and there to the conference of the Houses about the word "Nuisance," which the Commons would have, and the Lords will not, in the Irish Bill. The Commons do it professedly to prevent the King's dispensing with it; which Sir Robert Howard and others did expressly repeat often: viz., "that no King ever could do anything which was hurtful to his people." Now the Lords did argue, that it was an ill precedent, and that which will ever hereafter be used as a way of preventing the King's dispensation with acts; and therefore rather advise to pass the Bill without that word, and let it go accompanied with a petition to the King, that he will not dispense with it; this being a more civil way to the King. They answered well, that this does imply that the King should pass their Bill, and yet with design to dispense with it; which is to suppose the King guilty of abusing them. And more, they produce precedents for it;

namely, that against new buildings, and about leather, where the word "Nuisance" is used to the purpose: and further, that they do not rob the King of any right he ever had, for he never had a power to do hurt to his people, nor would exercise it; and therefore there is no danger, in the passing this Bill, of imposing on his prerogative; and concluded that they think they ought to do this, so as the people may really have the benefit of it when it is passed, for never any people could expect so reasonably to be indulged something from a King, they having already given him so much money, and are likely to give more. Thus they broke up, both adhering to their opinions; but the Commons seemed much more full of judgment and reason than the Lords. Then the Commons made their Report to the Lords of their vote, that their Lordships' proceedings in the Bill for examining Accounts were unparliamentary; they having, while a Bill was sent up to them from the Commons about the business, petitioned his Majesty that he would do the same thing by his Commission. They did give their reasons: viz., that it had no precedent; that the King ought not to be informed of anything passing in the Houses till it comes to a Bill; that it will wholly break off all correspondence between the two Houses, and in the issue wholly infringe the very use and being of Parliaments. Thence to Faithorne, and bought a head or two; one of them my Lord of Ormond's, the best I ever saw. To Arundel



House, where first the Royal Society meet, by the favour of Mr. Harry Howard, who was there. And here was a great meeting of worthy noble persons; but my Lord Brouncker, who pretended to make a congratulatory speech upon their coming thither, and great thanks to Mr. Howard, did do it in the worst manner in the world.

11th. Sir W. Warren told me, how my Lord Brouncker should take notice of the two flagons he saw at my house at dinner, at my late feast, and merrily, yet I know enviously, said, I could not come honestly by them. This I am glad to hear, though vexed to see his ignoble soul, but I shall beware of him, and yet if it is fit he should see I am no mean fellow, but can live in the world, and have something.

14th. Busy till night, pleasing myself mightily to see what a deal of business goes off a man's hands when he stays by it. Sir W. Batten tells me, the Lords do agree at last with the Commons about the word "Nuisance" in the Irish Bill, and do desire a good correspondence between the two Houses; and that the King does intend to prorogue them the last of this month.

15th. This afternoon, Knipp acts Mrs. Weaver's great part in *The Indian Emperor*, and is coming on to be a great actor. But I am so fell to my business, that I, though against my inclination, will not go.

16th. Sir W. Coventry came to me aside in the

Duke's chamber, to tell that he had not answered part of a late letter of mine, because *litera scripta manet*. About his leaving the office, he tells me, it is because he finds that his business at Court will not permit him to attend it; and then he confesses that he seldom of late could come from it with satisfaction, and therefore would not take the King's money for nothing. I professed my sorrow for it, and prayed the continuance of his favour; which he promised. I do believe he hath acted like a very wise man in reference to himself; but I doubt it will prove ill for the King, and for the office. Prince Rupert, I hear, is very ill; yesterday given over, but better to-day. Then with the Duke of York to the King, to receive his commands for stopping the sale this day of some prize-goods at the Prize Office, fit for the Navy; and received the King's commands, and carried them to the Lords' House, to my Lord Ashly, who was angry much thereat, and I am sorry it fell to me to carry the order. So, against his will, he signed a note I writ to the Commissioners of Prizes, which I carried and delivered to Kingdone, at their new office in Aldersgate Street. Sir Stephen Fox, among other things, told me his whole mystery in the business of the interest he pays as Treasurer for the army. They give him 12d. per pound quite through the army, with condition to be paid weekly. This he undertakes upon his own private credit, and to be paid by the King at the end of every four months. If the King

pay him not at the end of every four months, then, for all the time he stays longer, my Lord Treasurer, by agreement, allows him eight per cent. per annum for the forbearance. So that, in fine, he hath about twelve per cent. from the King and the army, for fifteen or sixteen months' interest; out of which he gains soundly, his expense being about £130,000 per annum; and hath no trouble in it, compared, as I told him, to the trouble I must have to bring in an account of interest. After supper, my wife told me how she had moved to W. Hewer the business of my sister for a wife to him, which he received with mighty acknowledgments, as she says, above anything; but says he hath no intention to alter his condition: so that I am in some measure sorry she ever moved it; but I hope he will think it only came from her. Talk there is of a letter to come from Holland, desiring a place of treaty; but I doubt it. This day I observe still, in many places, the smoking remains of the late fire: the ways mighty bad and dirty. This night Sir R. Ford told me how this day, at Christ Church Hospital, they have given a living of £200 per annum to Mr. Sanchy, my old acquaintance, which I wonder at, he commending him mightily; but am glad of it. He tells me, too, how the famous Stillingfleet was a Bluecoat boy.

18th. This morning came Captain Cocke to me, and tells me that the King comes to the House this day to pass the Poll Bill and the Irish Bill; and that, though

the Faction is very froward in the House, yet all will end well there. But he says that one had got a Bill ready to present in the House against Sir W. Coventry, for selling of places, and says he is certain of it, and how he was withheld from doing it. He says, that the Vice-chamberlain is now one of the greatest men in England again, and was he that did prevail with the King to let the Irish Bill go with the word "Nuisance." He told me, that Sir G. Carteret's declaration of giving double to any man that will prove that any of his people have demanded or taken any thing for forwarding the payment of the wages of any man, of which he sent us a copy yesterday, which we approved of, is set up, among other places, upon the House of Lords' door. I do not know how wisely this is done. This morning, also, there came to the office a letter from the Duke of York, commanding over-payment of no wages to any of the muster-masters of the fleet the last year, but only two, my brother Balty, taking notice that he had taken pains therein, and one Ward, who, though he had not taken so much as the other, yet had done more than the rest. At night I, by appointment, home, where W. Batelier and his sister Mary, and the two Mercers, to play at cards and sup, and did cut our great cake lately given us by Russell: a very good one. Here very merry late. Sir W. Pen told me this night how the King did make them a very sharp speech in the House of Lords to-day, saying that he did expect

to have had more Bills; that he purposes to prorogue them on Monday come se'night; that whereas they have unjustly conceived some jealousies of his making a peace, he declares he knows of no such thing or treaty; and so left them. But with so little effect, that as soon as he came into the House, Sir W. Coventry moved, that now the King hath declared his intention of proroguing them, it would be loss of time to go on with the thing they were upon, when they were called to the King, which was the calling over the defaults of Members appearing in the House; for that, before any person could now come or be brought to town, the House would be up. Yet the Faction did desire to delay time, and contend so as to come to a division of the House; where, however, it was carried, by a few voices, that the debate should be laid by. But this shows that they are not pleased, or that they have not any awe over them from the King's displeasure. •

19th. Sir W. Batten tells me that at his coming to my Lord Ashly, yesterday morning, to tell him what prize goods he would have saved for the navy, and not sold, according to the King's order on the 17th, he fell quite out with him in high terms; and he says, too, they did go on with the sale yesterday, even of the very hemp, and other things, at which I am astonished and will never wonder at the ruin of the King's affairs if this be suffered.

20th (Dord's day). I was sorry to hear of the heat the House was in yesterday about the ill management of the navy; though I think they were well answered, both by Sir G. Carteret and Sir W. Coventry, as he informs me of the substance of their speeches. I to church, and there, beyond expectation, find our seat and all the church crammed, by twice as many people, as used to be: and to my great joy find Mr. Frampton in the pulpit; and I think the best sermon, for goodness and oratory, without affectation or study, that ever I heard in my life. The truth is, he preaches the most like an apostle that ever I heard man; and it was much the best time that I ever spent in my life at church. His text, Ecclesiastes xi. verse 8th: "But if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all, yet let him remember the days of darkness, for they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity." To Whitehall, and there walked in the park, and a little to my Lord Chancellor's, where the King and Cabinet met, and there met Mr. Brisband, with whom good discourse, and there he did lend me "The Third Advice to a Paynter," a bitter satire upon the service of the Duke of Albemarle the last year. I took it home with me, and will copy it, having the former.

21st. To the Swede's Resident's in the Piazza, to discourse with him about two of our prizes. A cunning fellow. He lives in one of the great houses there, but ill-furnished; and came to us out of bed in

House, and there come mighty seasonably to hear the solicitor about my Lord Buckingham's pretence to the title of Lord Rosse. Mr. Attorney Montagu is also a good man, and so is old Sir P. Ball; but the solicitor and Scroggs after him are excellent men. To Deptford, and walked home, and there came into my company three drunken seamen, but one especially, who told me such stories, calling me captain, as made me mighty merry, and they would leap and skip, and kiss what maids they met all the way. I did at first give them money to drink, lest they should know who I was, and so become troublesome to me. This night, at supper, comes from Sir W. Coventry the Order of Council for my Lord Brouncker to do all the Comptroller's part relating to the treasurer's accounts, and Sir W. Pen, all relating to the Victualler's, and Sir J. Minnes to do the rest. This, I hope, will do much better for the King, and I think will give neither of them ground to overtop me, as I feared they would; which pleases me mightily. This evening, Mr. Wren and Captain Cocke called upon me at the office, and there told me how the House was in better temper to-day, and hath passed the Bill for the remainder of the money, but not to be passed finally till they have done some other things which they will have passed with it; wherein they are very open what their meaning is, which was but doubted before, for

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they do in all respects doubt the King's pleasing them.

23rd. To St. James's to see the organ Mrs. Turner told me of the other night, of my late Lord Aubigney's; and I took my Lord Brouncker with me, he being acquainted with my present Lord Almoner, Mr. Howard, brother to the Duke of Norfolk; so he and I did see the organ, but I do not like it, it being but a bauble, with a virginal joining to it; so I shall not meddle with it. The Almoner seems a good-natured gentleman: here I observed the desk which he hath [made], to remove, and is fastened to one of the arms of his chair. I do also observe the counterfeit windows there was, in the form of doors with looking-glasses instead of windows, which makes the room seem both bigger and lighter, I think; and I have some thoughts to have the like in one of my rooms. He discoursed much of the goodness of the music in Rome, but could not tell me how long music had been in any perfection in that Church, which I would be glad to know. He speaks much of the great buildings that this Pope, whom, in mirth to us, he calls Anti-Christ, hath done in his time. Away, and my Lord and I walking into the park, I did observe the new buildings; and my Lord, seeing I had a desire to see them, they being the place for the priests and friars, he took me back to my Lord Almoner; and he took us quite through the whole house and chapel, and the new



monastery, showing me most excellent pieces in wax-work: A crucifix given by a Pope to Mary Queen of Scots, where a piece of the Cross is; two bits set in the manner of a cross in the foot of the crucifix: several fine pictures, but especially very good prints of holy pictures. I saw the dortoire and the cells of the priests, and we went into one; a very pretty little room, very clean, hung with pictures, set with books. The priest was in his cell, with his hair-clothes to his skin, bare-legged, with a sandal only on, and his little bed without sheets, and no feather-bed; but yet, I thought, soft enough. His cord about his middle; but in so good company, living with ease, I thought it a very good life. A pretty library they have. And I was in the refectory, where every man his napkin, knife, cup of earth, and basin of the same; and a place for one to sit and read while the rest are at meals. And into the kitchen I went, where a good neck of mutton at the fire, and other victuals boiling. I do not think they fared very hard. Their windows all looking into a fine garden and the park, and mighty pretty rooms all. I wished myself one of the Capuchins. So away with the Almoner in his coach, talking merrily about the difference in our religions, to Whitehall, and there we left him. To take up my wife and Mercer, and to Temple Bar to the "Ordinary," and had a dish of meat for them, they having not dined, and thence to the King's house, and there saw *The*

*Humourous Lieutenant*: a silly play, I think; only the spirit, in it that grows very tall, and then sinks again to nothing, having two heads breeding upon one, and then Knipp's singing did please us. Here, in a box above, we spied Mrs. Pierce; and going out, they called us, and so we stayed for them; and Knipp took us all in, and brought to us Nelly, a most pretty woman, who acted the great part of Celia to-day very fine, and did it pretty well. I kissed her, and so did my wife; and a mighty pretty soul she is. We also saw Mrs. Hall, which is my little Roman nose black girl, that is mighty pretty: she is usually called Betty. Knipp made us stay in a box and see the dancing preparatory to to-morrow for *The Gobbers*, a play of Suckling's, not acted these twenty-five years, which was pretty; and so away thence, pleased with this sight also, and specially kissing of Nell. In our way home we find the Guards of Horse in the street, and hear the occasion to be news that the seamen are in a mutiny, which put me into a great fright; and, when I came home, I hear of no disturbance there of the seamen, but that one of them, being arrested to-day, others do go and rescue him.

24th. At the office, we were frightened with news of fire at Sir W. Batten's by a chimney taking fire, and it put me into much fear and trouble, but with a great many hands and pains it was soon stopped. I home, where most of my company come of this end of the

town—Mercer and her sister, Mr. Batelier and Penbleton, my Lady Pen, and Pegg, and Mr. Lowther, but did not stay long, and I believe it was by Sir W. Pen's order; for they had a great mind to have stayed, and also Captain Rolt. And anon, at about seven or eight o'clock, comes Mr. Harris, of the Duke's play-house, and brings Mrs. Pierce with him, and also one dressed like a country-maid with a straw hat on; and at first I could not tell who it was, though I expected Knipp: but it was she coming off the stage just as she acted this day in *The Goblins*; a merry jade. Now my house is full, and four fiddlers that play well. Harris I first took to my closet; and I find him a very curious and understanding person in all pictures and other things, and a man of fine conversation; and so is Rolt. So away with all my company down to the office, and there fell to dancing, and continued at it an hour or two, there coming Mrs. Anne Jones, a merchant's daughter hard by, who dances well, and all in mighty good humour, and danced with great pleasure; and then sung and then danced, and then sung many things of three voices—both Harris and Rolt singing their parts excellently. Among other things, Harris sang his Irish song—the strangest in itself, and the prettiest sung by him that ever I heard. Then to supper in the office, a cold good supper, and wondrous merry. Here was Mrs. Turner, also, and Mrs. Markham: after supper to dancing again and singing, and

so continued till almost three in the morning, and then, with extraordinary pleasure, broke up—only towards morning, Knipp fell a little ill, and so my wife home with her to put her to bed, and we continued dancing and singing; and among other things, our Mercer unexpectedly did happen to sing an Italian song I know not, of which they two sung the other two parts—two that did almost ravish me, and made me in love with her more than ever with her singing. As late as it was, yet Rolt and Harris would go home to-night, and walked it, though I had a bed for them; and it proved dark, and a misty night and very windy. The company being all gone to their homes, I up with Mrs. Pierce to Knipp, who was in bed; and we waked her, and sung a song, and then left my wife to see Mrs. Pierce in bed to her, in our best chamber, and so to bed myself, my mind mightily satisfied; only the music did not please me, they not being contented with less than 30s.

25th. This afternoon I saw the Poll Bill, now printed; wherein I do fear I shall be very deeply concerned, being to be taxed for all my offices, and then for my money that I have, and my title, as well as my head. It is a very great tax: but yet I do think it is so perplexed, it will hardly ever be collected duly. The late invention of Sir G. Downing's, is continued of bringing all the money into the Exchequer; and Sir G. Carteret's three pence is turned for all the

money of this Act into but a penny per pound, which I am sorry for. This day, the House hath passed the Bill for the Assessment, which I am glad of; and also our little Bill, for giving any of us in the office the power of justice of peace, is done as I would have it.

27th. (Lord's day.) To Sir Philip Warwick, by appointment, to meet Lord Bellassis, and up to his chamber, but find him unwilling to discourse of business on Sundays, so did not enlarge. Went down and sat in a low room, reading "Erasmus de scribendis epistolis," a very good book, especially one letter of advice to a courtier most true and good, which made me once resolve to tear out the two leaves that it was written in, but I forebore it. Roger Pepys and I to walk in the Pall Mall. I find by him that the House of Parliament continues full of ill humours; and do say how, in their late Poll Bill, which cost so much time, the yeomanry, and indeed two-thirds of the nation, are left out to be taxed, that there is not effectual provision enough made for collection of the money; and then, that after a man his goods are distrained and sold, and the overplus returned, I am to have ten days to make my complaints of being over-rated if there be cause, when my goods are sold, and that is too late. These things they are resolved to look into again, and mend them before they rise, which they expect at furthest on Thursday next. Here we met with Mr. May, and he and we to talk of several

things, of building, and such like matters. Walked to Whitehall, and there I showed my cousin Roger the Duchess of York, sitting in state, while her own mother stands by her; and my Lady Castlemaine, whom he approves to be very handsome, and wonders that she cannot be as good within as she is fair without. Her little black boy came by him, and, a dog being in his way, the little boy swore at the dog. "How," says he, blessing himself, "would I whip this child till the blood come, if it were my child!" and I believe he would. But he do by no means like the liberty of the Court, and did come with expectation of finding them playing at cards to-night, though Sunday; for such stories he is told, but how true I know not. My wife tells me Mr. Frampton is gone to sea, and so she lost her labour to-day in thinking to hear him preach.

28th. To Westminster, where I spent the morning at the Lords' House door, to hear the conference between the two Houses, about my Lord Mordaunt, of which there was great expectation, many hundreds of people coming to hear it. But, when they came, the Lords did insist upon my Lord Mordaunt's having leave to sit upon a stool uncovered within their bar, and that he should have counsel, which the Commons would not suffer, but desired leave to report their Lordships' resolution to the House of Commons; and so parted for this day, which troubled me, I having by

this means lost the whole day. Here I hear from Mr. Hayes that Prince Rupert is very bad still, and so bad that he do now yield to be trepanned. Much work I find there is to do in the two Houses in a little time, and much difference there is between them in many things to be reconciled; as in the Bill for examining our accounts, Lord Mordaunt's Bill for building the City, and several others. The goldsmith home with me, and I paid him £15 15s., for my silver standish. He tells me gold holds up its price still, and did desire me to let him have what old 20s. pieces I have, and he would give me 3s. 2d. change for each. Comes Mr. Gauden at my desire to me, and to-morrow I shall pay him some money, and shall see what present he will make me, the hopes of which do make me part with my money out of my chest, which I should not otherwise do. After supper and reading a little, and my wife's cutting off my hair short, which is grown too long upon my crown of my head; I to bed.

29th. To the office, where Sir W. Pen and I look much askew one upon another, though afterward business made us speak friendly enough, but yet we hate one another. Sir W. Batten came to me, and tells me that there is news upon the Exchange to-day, that my Lord Sandwich's coach and the French Ambassador's at Madrid, meeting and contending for the way, they shot my Lord's postillion and another man dead; and that we have killed twenty-five of theirs,

and that my Lord is well. How true this is I cannot tell. Comes Mrs. Turner to me, to make her complaint of her sad usage from my Lord Brouncker, that he thinks much she hath not already got another house, though he himself hath employed her night and day ever since his first naming of the matter, to make part of her house ready for him, as he ordered, and promised she should stay till she had fitted herself; by which I perceive he is a rotten-hearted, false man, and, therefore, I must beware of him accordingly. I did pity the woman, and gave her the best counsel I could; and so, falling to other discourse, I made her laugh and merry, as sad as she came to me; so that I perceive no passion in a woman can be lasting long.

30th. Fast-day for the King's death. At night, it being a little moonshine and fair weather, into the garden, and, with Mercer, sang till my wife put me in mind of its being a fast-day; and so I was sorry for it, and stopped, and home to cards.

31st. Mr. Osborne comes from Mr. Gauden, and takes money and notes for £4,000, and leaves me acknowledgment for £4,800 and odd, implying as if D. Gauden would give the £800 between Povy and myself, but how he will divide it I know not. The Parliament is not yet up, being finishing some Bills. Thus the month ends: myself in very good health and content of mind in my family. All our heads full in the office at this dividing of the Comptroller's duty.



tion of the Poll Bill, which must be met  
they rise, there being several horrible overs  
prejudice of the King, is a certain sign  
anybody hath of the King's business. . No  
who commands the fleet next year, or, inde  
we shall have a fleet or no. Great pre  
Holland and France, and the French have  
Antigo (Antigua) from us, which vexes us

*February 1st.* Much surprised to hear  
Deptford that Mrs. Batters is going al  
married to him that is now the captain  
band's ship. She seemed the most passion  
in the world.

2nd. This night comes home my new  
dish, which I do give myself for my c  
very well pleased this night with readin  
brought home with me last night from  
Hall, of Dryden's, upon the present war;  
poem.

3rd. (Lord's day.) To Whitehall, and  
W. Coventry's chamber, and there stayer  
ready, talking, and among other things, o  
being trepanned, which was in doing just  
through the Stone Gallery, we asking a  
his lodgings, and were told so. We are

for the good success; though I daresay but few do really concern ourselves for him in our hearts. With others into the House, and there hear that the work is done to the Prince in a few minutes without any pain at all to him, he not knowing when it was done. It was performed by Moulins. Having cut the outward table, as they call it, they find the inner all corrupted, so as it come out without any force; and their fear is, that the whole inside of his head is corrupted like that, which do yet make them afraid of him; but no ill accident appeared in the doing of the thing, but all with all imaginable success, as Sir Alexander Frazier did tell me himself, I asking him, who is very kind to me. To Sir G. Carteret's to dinner; and before dinner he tells me that he believes the Duke of York will go to sea with the fleet, which I am sorry for in respect to his person, but yet there is no person in condition to command the fleet, now the captains are grown so great, but him. By-and-by to dinner, where very good company. Among other discourse, we talked much of Nostradamus his prophecy of these times, and the burning of the City of London, some of whose verses are put into Booker's Almanack this year; and Sir G. Carteret did tell a story, how at his death he did make the town swear that he should never be dug up, or his tomb opened after he was buried; but they did after sixty years do it, and upon his breast they found a plate of brass, saying what a wicked and unfaithful people

the people of that place were, who after so many vows, should disturb and open him such a day and year and hour; which, if true, is very strange. Then we fell to talking of the burning of the City; and my Lady Carteret herself did tell us how abundance of pieces of burnt papers were cast by the wind as far as Crayborne; and among others she took up one, or had one brought her to see, which was a little bit of paper that had been printed, whereon there remained no more nor less than these words: "Time is, it is done." Away home, and received some letters from Sir W. Coventry, touching the want of victuals to Kempthorne's fleet going to the Straits and now in the Downs; which did trouble me, he saying that this disappointment might prove fatal; and the more, because Sir W. Coventry do intend to come to the office upon business to-morrow morning, and I shall not know what answer to give him. Fell to read a little in Hakewill's "Apology," and did satisfy myself mighty fair in the truth of the saying that the world do not grow old at all, but is in as good condition in all respects as ever it was as to nature.

4th. D. Gauden did give me a good cordial this morning, by telling me that he do give me five of the eight hundred pounds on his account remaining in my hands to myself, for the service I do him in my victualling business, and £100 for my particular share of the profits of my Tangier employment as Treasurer.

When Sir W. Coventry did come, and the rest met, I did appear unconcerned, and did give him answer pretty satisfactory what he asked me; so that I did get off this meeting without any ground lost. Soon as dined, my wife and I out to the Duke's playhouse, and there saw *Heraclius*, an excellent play, to my extraordinary content; and the more from the house being very full, and great company; among others, Mrs. Stewart, very fine, with her locks done up with puffs, as my wife calls them; and several other great ladies had their hair so, though I do not like it; but my wife does mightily—but it is only because she sees it is the fashion. Here I saw my Lord Rochester and his lady, Mrs. Mallett, who hath after all this ado married him; and, as I hear some say in the pit, it is a great act of charity, for he hath no estate. But it was pleasant to see how every body rose up when my Lord John Butler, the Duke of Ormond's son, came into the pit towards the end of the play, who was a servant to Mrs. Mallett, and now smiled upon her, and she on him. I had sitting next to me a woman, the likeliest my Lady Castlemaine that ever I saw anybody like another; but she is acquainted with every fine fellow, and called them by their name, Jack, and Tom, and before the end of the play frisked to another place. Home, and to my chamber, and there finished my catalogue of my books with my own hand.

5th. Heard this morning that the Prince is much

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better, and hath good rest. All the talk is that my Lord Sandwich hath perfected the peace with Spain; which is very good, if true. Sir H. Cholmly was with me this morning, and told me of my Lord Bellassis's base dealings with him by getting him to give him great gratuities to near £2,000 for his friendship in the business of the Mole, and hath been lately underhand endeavouring to bring another man into his place as Governor, so as to receive his money of Sir H. Cholmly for nothing. To the King's house, to see *The Chances*. A good play I find it, and the actors most good in it; and pretty to hear Knipp sing in the play very properly, "All night I weep;" and sung it admirably. The whole play pleases me well; and most of all, the sight of many fine ladies—among others, my Lady Castlemaine and Mrs. Middleton; the latter of the two hath also a very excellent face and body, I think. Thence by coach to the New Exchange, and there laid out money, and I did give Betty Michell two pair of gloves and a dressing-box; and so home in the dark, over the ruins, with a link, to the office. There come to me Mr. Young and Whistler, flag-makers, and with mighty earnestness did present me with, and press me to take a box, wherein I could not guess there was less than £100 in gold; but I do wholly refuse, and did not at last take it. The truth is, not thinking them safe men to receive such a gratuity from, nor knowing any considerable courtesy that ever I did do them, but

desirous to keep myself free from their reports, and to have it in my power to say I had refused their offer.

6th. To Westminster Hall, and walked up and down, and hear that the Prince do still rest well by day and night, and out of pain; so as great hopes are conceived of him: though I did meet Dr. Clerke and Mr. Pierce, and they do say they believe he will not recover it, they supposing that his whole head within is eaten by this corruption, which appeared in this piece of the inner table. To Whitehall, to attend the Council; but they sat not to-day. So to Sir W. Coventry's chamber and find him within, and with a letter from the Downs in his hands, telling the loss of the *St. Patrick* coming from Harwich in her way to Portsmouth; and would needs chase two ships, she having the *Malago* fire-ship in company, which from English colours put up Dutch, and he would clap on board the *Vice-Admiral*; and after long dispute, the *Admiral* comes on the other side of him, and both together took him. Our fire-ship (*Seely*), not coming in to fire all three, but come away, leaving her in their possession, and carried away by them: a ship built at Bristol the last year of fifty guns and upwards, and a most excellent good ship.

7th. Talking with my brother upon matters relating to his journey to Brampton to-morrow, I looking another way, heard him fall down, and turned my head, and he was fallen down all along upon the

ground dead, which did putt me into a great fright, and, to see my brotherly love! I did presently lift him up from the ground, he being as pale as death; and, being upon his legs, he did presently come to himself, and said he had something come into his stomach very hot. He knew not what it was, nor ever had such a fit before. To the office, late doing business, and then home, and find my brother pretty well. I did this night give him 20s. for books, and as much for his pocket, and 15s. to carry him down. Poor fellow! he is so melancholy, and withal, my wife says, harmless, that I begin to love him, and would be loth he should not do well.

8th. This morning my brother John came up to my bedside, and took his leave of us. He gone, I up, and to the office. Sir W. Batten come this morning from the House, where the King hath prorogued this Parliament to October next. I am glad they are up. The Bill for Accounts was not offered, the party being willing to let it fall; but the King did tell them he expected it. They are parted with great heart-burnings, one party against the other. Pray God bring them hereafter together in better temper! It is said that the King do intend himself in this interval to take away Lord Mordaunt's government, so as to do something to appease the House against they come together, and let them see he will do that of his own accord which is fit, without their forcing him; and

that he will have his Commission for accounts go on; which will be good things. At dinner we talked much of Cromwell; all saying he was a brave fellow, and did owe his crown he got to himself as much as any man that ever got one.

9th. Read a piece of a play, *Every Man in his Humour*, wherein is the greatest propriety of speech that ever I read in my life; and so to bed. This noon came my wife's watch-maker, and received £12 of me for her watch; but Captain Rolt coming to speak with me about a little business, he did judge of the work to be very good, and so I am well contented.

10th. (Lord's day.) To church, where Mr. Mills made an unnecessary sermon upon Original Sin, neither understood by himself nor the people. Home, where come Mr. Carter, my old acquaintance of Magdalene College, who hath not been here of many years. He hath spent his time in the country with the Bishop of Carlisle much. He is grown a very comely person, and of good discourse, and one that I like very much. We had much talk of all our old acquaintance of the College, concerning their various fortunes; wherein, to my joy, I met not with any that have sped better than myself. Mrs. Turner do tell me very odd stories how Mrs. Williams do receive the applications of people, and hath presents, and she is the hand that receives all, while my Lord Brouncker does the business.

11th. With Creed to Westminster Hall, and there



up and down, and hear that Prince Rupert is still better and better; and that he did tell Dr. Troutbecke expressly that my Lord Sandwich is ordered home. I hear, too, that Prince Rupert hath begged the having of all the stolen prize-goods which he can find, and that he is looking out anew after them, which at first troubled me; but I do see it cannot come to anything, but is done by Hayes, or some of his little people about him. Here, among other news, I bought the King's speech at proroguing the House, the other day, wherein are some words which cannot but import some prospect of a peace, which God send us!

12th. With my Lord Brouncker by coach to his house, there to hear some Italian music; and here we met Tom Killigrew, Sir Robert Murray, and the Italian Signor Baptista, who hath proposed a play in Italian for the Opera, which T. Killigrew do intend to have up; and here he did sing one of the acts. He himself is fine poet as well as the musician, which is very much; and did sing the whole from the words without any music pricked, and played all along upon a harpsicon most admirably, and the composition most excellent. The words I did not understand, and so knew not how they are fitted, but believe very well, and all in the recitativo very fine. But I perceive there is a proper accent in every country's discourse, and that do reach in their setting of notes to words, which, therefore, cannot be natural to anybody else but

them; so that I am not so much smitten with it, as it may be I should be, if I were acquainted with their accent. But the whole composition is certainly most excellent; and the poetry, T. Killigrew and Sir R. Murray, who understood the words, did say most excellent. I confess I was mightily pleased with the music. He pretends not to voice, though it be good, but not excellent. This done, T. Killigrew and I to talk: and he tells me how the audience at his house is not above half so much as it used to be before the late fire. That Knipp is like to make the best actor that ever came upon the stage, she understanding so well: that they are going to give her £30 a year more. That the stage is now by his pains a thousand times better and more glorious than ever heretofore. Now, wax-candles, and many of them; then, not above three pounds of tallow; now, all things civil, no rudeness anywhere; then, as in a bear-garden; then, two or three fiddlers; now, nine or ten of the best; then, nothing but rushes upon the ground, and everything else mean; now, all otherwise; then, the Queen seldom and the King never would come; now, not the King only for state, but all civil people do think they may come as well as any. He tells me that he hath gone several times, eight or ten times, he tells me, hence to Rome, to hear good music; so much he loves it, though he never did sing or play a note. That he hath ever endeavoured in the late King's time, and in this, to introduce good music, but he

never could do it, there never having been any music here better than ballads. And says, "Hermit poore" and "Chiny Chese," was all the music we had; and yet no ordinary fiddlers get so much money as ours do here, which speaks our rudeness still. That he hath gathered our Italians from several Courts in Christendom, to come to make a concert for the King, which he do give £200 a year a-piece to; but badly paid, and does come in the room of keeping four ridiculous gundilows, he having got the King to put them away, and lay out money this way; and indeed I do commend him for it, for I think it is a very noble undertaking. He do intend to have some times of the year these operas to be performed at the two present theatres, since he is defeated in what he intended in Moorfields on purpose for it; and he tells me plainly that the City audience was as good as the Court, but now they are most gone. Baptista tells me that Giacomo Chariscimi is still alive at Rome, who was master to Vinnecotio, who is one of the Italians that the King hath here, and the chief composer of them. My great wonder is, how this man do to keep in memory so perfectly the music of the whole act, both for the voice and the instrument too. I confess I do admire it: but in recitativo the sense much helps him, for there is but one proper way of discoursing and giving the accents. Having done our discourse, we all took coaches, my Lord's and T. Killigrew's, and to Mrs.

Khipp's chamber, where this Italian is to teach her to sing her part. And so we all thither, and there she did sing an Italian song or two very fine, while he played the bass upon the harpsicon there; and exceedingly taken I am with her singing, and believe that she will do miracles at that and acting. Her little girl is mighty pretty and witty.

13th. To the Duke of York, and there did our usual business; but troubled to see that at this time, after our declaring a debt to the Parliament of £900,000, and nothing paid since, but the debt increased, and now the fleet to set out; to hear that the King hath ordered but £35,000 for the setting out of the fleet out of the Poll Bill, to buy all provisions, when five times as much had been little enough to have done anything to purpose. They have, indeed, ordered more for paying off of seamen and the yards for some time, but not enough for that neither. The Prince, I hear, is every day better and better. To Dr. Clarke's, by invitation. Here was his wife, painted, and her sister Worshipp, a widow now and mighty pretty in her mourning. Here was also Mr. Pierce and Mr. Floyd, Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of Prizes, and Captain Cooke, to dinner, an ill and little mean one, with foul cloth and dishes, and everything poor. Discoursed most about plays and the opera, where, among other vanities, Captain Cooke had the arrogance to say that he was fain to direct Sir W. Davenant in the

breaking of his verses into such and such lengths, according as would be fit for music, and how he used to swear at Davenant, and command him that way, when W. Davenant would be angry, and find fault with this or that note—a vain coxcomb he is, though he sings and composes so well. Dr. Clerke did say that Sir W. Davenant is no good judge of a dramatic poem, finding fault with his choice of *Henry V.*, and others for the stage, when I do think, and he confesses, *The Siege of Rhodes*, as good as ever was writ. Cooke gone, Dr. Clerke fell to reading a new play, newly writ, of a friend of his; but, by his discourse and confession afterwards, it was his own. Some things, but very few, moderately good; but infinitely far from the conceit wit, design, and language, from very many plays that I know; so that, but for compliment, I was quite tired with hearing it. There was a very great disorder this day at the ticket office, to the beating and bruising of the face of Carcasse very much. A foul evening this was to-night, and I mightily troubled to get a coach home; and which is now my common practice, going over the ruins in the night, I rid with my sword drawn in the coach.

14th. To the office, where Carcasse comes with his plaistered face, and called himself Sir W. Batten's martyr, which made W. Batten mad almost, and mighty quarrelling there was. By coach to my Lord Chancellor's, and there a meeting: the Duke of York,

Duke of Albemarle, and several other Lords of the Commission of Tangier. And there I did present a state of my accounts, and managed them well; and my Lord Chancellor did say, though he was, in other things, in an ill humour, that no man in England was of more method, nor made himself better understood than myself. But going, after the business of money was over, to other businesses, of settling the garrison, he did fling out, and so did the Duke of York, two or three severe words touching my Lord Bellassis: that he would have no governor come away from thence in less than three years; no, though his lady were with child. "And," says the Duke of York, "there should be no governor continue so, longer than three years." "And," says Lord Arlington, "when our rules are once set, and upon good judgment declared, no governor should offer to alter them." "We must correct the many things that are amiss there; for," says the Lord Chancellor, "you must think we do hear of more things amiss than we are willing to speak before our friends' faces." My Lord Bellassis would not take notice of their reflecting on him, and did wisely. H. Cholmly and I to the Temple, and there walked in the dark in the walks talking of news; and he surprises me with the certain news that the King did last night in Council declare his being in treaty with the Dutch: that they had sent him a very civil letter, declaring that, if nobody but themselves were concerned, they

would not dispute the place of treaty, but leave it to his choice; but that, being obliged to satisfy therein a prince of equal quality with himself, they must except any place in England or Spain. Also the King hath chosen the Hague, and thither hath chose my Lord Hollis and Harry Coventry to go Ambassadors to treat; which is so mean a thing, as all the world will believe, that we do go to beg a peace of them, whatever we pretend. And it seems all our Court are mightily for a peace, taking this to be the time to make one, while the king hath money, that he may save something of what the Parliament hath given him to put him out of debt, so as he may need the help of no more Parliaments, as to the point of money: but our debt is so great, and expense daily so increased, that I believe little of the money will be saved between this and the making of the peace up. But that which troubles me most is, that we have chosen a son of Secretary Morris, a boy never used to any business, to go Secretary to the Embassy. This morning came up to my wife's bedside, I being up dressing myself, little Will Mercer to be her valentine; and brought her name writ upon blue paper in gold letters, done by himself, very pretty; and we were both well pleased with it. But I am also this year my wife's valentine, and it will cost me £5; but that I must have laid out if we had not been valentines.

15th. Peg Pen is married this day privately: no

borrowed many things of my kitchen for dressing their dinner. This wedding, being private, is imputed to its being just before Lent, and so in vain to make new clothes till Easter, that they might see the fashions as they are like to be this summer; which is reason good enough. Mrs. Turner tells me she hears Sir W. Pen gives £4,500 or £4,000 with her.

16th. To my Lord Brouncker's, and there was Sir Robert Murray, a most excellent man of reason and learning, and understands the doctrine of music, and everything else I could discourse of, very finely. Here come Mr. Hooke, Sir George Ent, Dr. Wren, and many others; and by-and-by the music, that is to say Signor Vincentio, who is the master-composer, and six more, whereof two eunuchs, so tall, that Sir T. Harvey said well that he believes they do grow large as our oxen do, and one woman very well dressed and handsome enough, but would not be kissed, as Mr. Killigrew, who brought the company in, did acquaint us. They sent two harpsicons before; and by-and-by, after tuning, they began; and, I confess, very good music they made; that is, the composition exceeding good, but yet not at all more pleasing to me than what I have heard in English by Mrs. Knipp, Captain Cooke, and others. Their justness in keeping time by practice much before any that we have, unless it be a good band of practised fiddlers. I find that Mrs. Pierce's



little girl is my valentine, she having drawn me; which I was not sorry for, it easing me of something more that I must have given to others. But here I do first observe the fashion of drawing of mottoes as well as names; so that Pierce, who drew my wife, did draw also a motto, and this girl drew another for me. What mine was I have forgot; but my wife's was, "Most courteous and most fair," which, as it may be used, or an anagram made upon each name, might be very pretty. One wonder I observed to-day, that there was no music in the morning to call up our new married people, which is very mean methinks.

17th. (Lord's day.) To my Lord Chancellor's, where I met with, and had much pretty discourse with, one of the Rogerses that knew me; and it was pretty to hear him tell me, of his own accord, as a matter of no shame, that in Spain he had a pretty woman, his mistress, whom, when money grew scarce with him, he was forced to leave, and afterwards heard how she and her husband lived well, she being kept by an old friar; but this, says he, is better than as our ministers do, who have wives that lay up their estates, and do no good nor relieve any poor—no, not our greatest prelates. Stayed till the Council was up, and attended the King and Duke of York round the park, and was asked several questions by both; but I was in pain, lest they should ask me what I could not answer; as the Duke of York did the value of the hull of the

*St. Patrick* lately lost, which I told him I could not presently answer; though I might have easily furnished myself to answer all those questions. They stood a good while to see the ganders and geese in the water. At home, by appointment, comes Captain Cocke to me, to talk of State matters, and about the peace; who told me that the whole business is managed between Kevet, Burgomaster of Amsterdam, and my Lord Arlington, who hath, through his wife there, some interest. We have proposed the Hague, but know not yet whether the Dutch will like it; or if they do, whether the French will. We think we shall have the help of the information of their affairs and state, and the helps of the Prince of Orange's faction; but above all, that De Witt, who hath all this while said he cannot get peace, his mouth will now be stopped, so that he will be forced to offer fit terms for fear of the people; and, lastly, if France or Spain do not please us, we are in a way presently to clap up a peace with the Dutch, and secure them. But we are also in treaty with France, as he says: but it must be to the excluding our alliance with the King of Spain or House of Austria: which we do not know presently what will be determined in. He tells me the Vice-Chamberlain is so great with the King, that, let the Duke of York, and Sir W. Coventry, and this office, do or say what they will, while the King lives, Sir G. Carteret will do what he will; and advises me to be

often with him, and eat and drink with him; and tells me that he doubts he is jealous of me, and was mighty mad to-day at our discourse to him before the Duke of York. But I did give him my reasons that the office is concerned to declare that, without money, the King's work cannot go on. He assures me that Henry Brouncker is one of the shrewdest fellows for parts in England, and a dangerous man; that, while we want money so much in the Navy, the Officers of the Ordnance have at this day £300,000 good in tallies, which they can command money upon: that Harry Coventry, who is to go upon this treaty with Lord Hollis, who he confesses to be a very wise man, into Holland, is a mighty quick, ready man, but not so weighty as he should be, he knowing him so well in his drink as he do: that, unless the King do something against my Lord Mordaunt and the Patents for the Canary Company, before the Parliament next meets, he do believe there will be a civil war before there will be any more money given, unless it may be at their perfect disposal; and that all things are now ordered to the provoking of the Parliament against they come next, and the spending the King's money, so as to put him into a necessity of having it at the time it is prorogued for, or sooner. This evening, going to the Queen's side to see the ladies, I did find the Queen, the Duchess of York, and another or two, at cards, with the room full of great ladies and men:

which I was amazed at to see on a Sunday, having not believed it; but contrarily, flatly denied the same a little while since to my cousin Roger Pepys. Going by water, read the answer to "The Apology for Papists," which did like me mightily.

18th. To the King's house, to *The Maid's Tragedy*, but vexed all the while with two talking ladies and Sir Charles Sedley; yet pleased to hear their discourse, he being a stranger. And one of the ladies would and did sit with her mask on, all the play, and, being exceeding witty as ever I heard woman, did talk most pleasantly with him; but was, I believe, a virtuous woman, and of quality. He would fain know who she was, but she would not tell; yet did give him many pleasant hints of her knowledge of him, by that means setting his brains at work to find out who she was, and did give him leave to use all means to find out who she was, but pulling off her mask. He was mighty witty, and she also making sport with him very inoffensively, that a more pleasant rencontre I never heard. But by that means lost the pleasure of the play wholly, to which now and then Sir Charles Sedley's exceptions against both words and pronouncing were very pretty.

19th. At noon home, and there find old Mr. Michell and Howlett come to desire mine and my wife's company to dinner to their son's, and so away by coach with them, it being Betty's wedding-day a year, as also Shrove Tuesday. Here I made myself mighty merry,

and a mighty pretty dinner we had in this little house, to my exceeding great content, and my wife's, and my heart pleased to see Betty. After dinner, I fell to read the Acts about the building of the City again; and indeed the laws seem to be very good, and I pray God I may live to see it built in that manner! This morning I hear that our discourse of peace is all in the dirt; for the Dutch will not like of the peace, or at least the French will not agree to it; so that I do wonder what we shall do, for carry on the war we cannot.

20th. To Whitehall, by the way observing Sir W. Pen's carrying a favour to Sir W. Coventry, for his daughter's wedding, and saying that there was others for us, when we will fetch them, which vexed me, and I am resolved not to wear it when he orders me one. His wedding hath been so poorly kept, that I am ashamed of it; for a fellow that makes such a flutter as he do. When we come to the Duke of York here, I heard discourse how Harris of his playhouse is sick, and everybody commends him, and above all things, for acting the Cardinal. They talked how the King's violin, Bannister, is mad that the King hath a Frenchman come, to be chief of some part of the King's music, at which the Duke of York made great mirth. Then withdrew to his closet, where all our business, lack of money and prospect of the effects of it, such as made Sir W. Coventry say publicly before us all, that he do heartily wish that his Royal Highness had

anything to do in the Navy, whatever became of him, and much dishonour, he says, is likely to fall under the management of it. The Duke of York was angry, as much as he could be, or ever I saw him, with Sir G. Carteret, for not paying the masters of some ships on Monday last, according to his promise. With the 'Chequer men, to the "Leg" in King Street, and there had wine for them; and there was one in company with them that was the man that got the vessel to carry over the King from Bredhemson, who hath a pension of £200 per annum, but ill paid, and the man is looking after getting of a prize ship to live by; but the trouble is, that this poor man, who hath received no part of his money these four years, and is ready to starve almost, must yet pay to the Poll Bill for this pension. He told me several particulars of the King's coming thither, which was mighty pleasant, and shows how mean a thing a king is, how subject to fall, and how like other men he is in his afflictions. I with Lord Bellassis, to the Lord Chancellor's. Lord Bellassis tells me how the King of France hath caused the stop to be made to our proposition of treating in the Hague; that he being greater than they, we may better come and treat at Paris: so that God knows what will become of the peace! He tells me too, as a grand secret, that he do believe the peace offensive and defensive between Spain and us is quite finished, but must not be known, to prevent the King of France's

present falling upon Flanders. He do believe the Duke of York will be made General of the Spanish armies there, and Governor of Flanders, if the French should come against it, and we assist the Spaniard: that we have done the Spaniard abundance of mischief in the West Indies, by our privateers at Jamaica, which they lament mightily, and I am sorry for it to have it done at this time. By-and-by, come to my Lord Chancellor, who heard mighty quietly my complaints for lack of money, and spoke mighty kind to me, but little hopes of help therein.

21st. To the office, where sat all the morning, and there a most furious conflict between Sir W. Pen and I, in few words, and on a sudden occasion of no great moment, but very bitter and smart on one another, and so broke off, and to our business, my heart as full of spite as it could hold, for which God forgive me and him! At the end come witnesses on behalf of Mr. Carcasse; but, instead of clearing him, I find they were brought to recriminate Sir W. Batten, and did it by oath very highly, that made the old man mad, and, I confess, me ashamed, so that I caused all but ourselves to withdraw, being sorry to have such things declared in the open office, before 100 people. But it was done home, and I believe true, though W. Batten denies all, but is cruel mad, and swore one of them, he or Carcasse, should not continue in the office, which is said like a fool.

22nd. All of us, that is to say, Lord Brouncker, J. Minnes, W. Batten, T. Harvy, and myself, to Sir W. Pen's house, where some other company. It is instead of a wedding dinner for his daughter, whom I saw in palterly clothes, nothing new but a bracelet that her servant had given her, and ugly she is as heart can wish. A sorry dinner, not anything handsome or clean, but some silver plates they borrowed of me. My wife was here too. We had favours given us all, and we put them in our hats, I against my will, but that my Lord and the rest did.

23rd. This day I am, by the blessing of God, 34 years old, in very good health and mind's content, and in condition of estate much beyond whatever my friends could expect of a child of theirs this day 34 years. The Lord's name be praised! and may I be thankful for it.

24th. (Lord's day.) My Lady Pen did, going out of church, ask me whether we did not make a great show at Court to-day, with all our favours in our hats. To Whitehall, and there meeting my Lord Arlington, he by I know not what kindness, offered to carry me along with him to my Lord Treasurer's, whither, I told him, I was going. I believe he had a mind to discourse of some Navy business, but Sir Thomas Clifford coming into the coach to us, we were prevented; which I was sorry for, for I had a mind to begin an acquaintance with him. He speaks well, and



hath pretty slight superficial parts, I believe. He, in our going, talked much of the plain habit of the Spaniards; how the king and lords themselves wear but a cloak of Colchester baize, and the ladies mantles, in cold weather, of white flannel; and that the endeavours frequently of setting up the manufactory of making these stuffs there have only been prevented by the Inquisition; the English and Dutchmen that have been sent for to work, being taken with a Psalm-book or Testament, and so clapped up, and the house pulled down by the Inquisitors; and the greatest lord in Spain dare not say a word against it, if the word Inquisition be but mentioned. Captain Cocke did tell me what I must not forget: that the answer of the Dutch, refusing the Hague for a place of treaty, and proposing Boyse, Bredah, Bergen-op-Zoom, or Maestricht, was seemingly stopped by the Swede's Ambassador, (though he did show it to the King, but the King would take no notice of it, nor does not) from being delivered to the King: and he hath wrote to desire them to consider better of it; so that, though we know their refusal of the place, yet they know not that we know it, nor is the King obliged to show his sense of the affront. That the Dutch are in very great straits, so as to be said to be not able to set out their fleet this year. By-and-by comes Sir Robert Viner and my Lord Mayor to ask the King's direction about measuring out the streets according to the New Act for

building of the City, wherein the King is to be pleased. But he says that the way proposed in Parliament by Colonel Birch would have been the best, to have chosen some persons in trust, and sold the whole ground, and let it be sold again by them, with preference to the old owner, which would have certainly caused the City to be built where these trustees pleased; whereas now, great differences will be, and the streets built by fits, and not entire till all differences be decided. This, as he tells it, I think would have been the best way. I inquired about the Frenchman that was said to fire the City, and was hanged for it, by his own confession, that he was hired for it by a Frenchman of Roane, and that he did with a stick reach in a fireball in at a window of the house; whereas the master of the house, who is the King's baker, and his son, and daughter, do all swear there was no such window, and that the fire did not begin thereabouts. Yet the fellow who, though a mopish, besotted fellow, did not speak like a madman, did swear that he did fire it; and did not this like a madman: for, being tried on purpose, and landed with his keeper at the Town Wharf, he could carry the keeper to the very house. Asking Sir R. Viner what he thought was the cause of the fire, he tells me, that the baker, son, and his daughter did all swear again and again, that their oven was drawn by ten o'clock at night: that having occasion to light a candle about twelve, there was not

so much fire in the bakehouse as to light a match for a candle, so that they were fair to go into another place to light it; that about two in the morning they felt themselves almost choked with smoke, and rising, did find the fire coming up-stairs: so they rose to save themselves; but that, at that time, the havins were not on fire in the yard. So that they are, as they swear, in absolute ignorance how this fire should come; which is a strange thing, that so horrid an effect should have so mean and uncertain a beginning. By-and-by called into the King and Cabinet, and there had a few insipid words about money for Tangier, but to no purpose. Going through bridge by water, my waterman told me how the mistress of the "Bear" tavern, at the bridge foot, did lately fling herself into the Thames, and drowned herself; which did trouble me the more, when they tell me it was she that did live at the "White Horse" tavern in Lombard Street, which was a most beautiful woman, as most I have seen. It seems she hath had long melancholy upon her, and hath endeavoured to make away with herself often.

25th. Lay long in bed, talking with pleasure with my poor wife how she used to make coal fires, and wash my foul clothes with her own hand for me, poor wretch! in our little room at my Lord Sandwich's; for which I ought for ever to love and admire her, and do; and persuade myself she would do the same thing again, if God should reduce us to it. At my gold-

Smith's did observe the King's new medal, where in little, there is Mrs. Stewart's face as well done as ever I saw anything in my whole life, I think: and a pretty thing it is, that he should choose her face to represent Britannia by.

27th. Up by candle-light about six o'clock - and by water down to Woolwich, I being at leisure this day, the King and Duke of York being gone down to Sheerness to lay out the design for a fortification there to the river Medway; and so we do not attend the Duke of York as we should otherwise have done. To the dockyard, and went into Mr. Pett's; and there beyond expectation he did present me with a Japan cane with a silver head, and his wife sent me by him a ring with a Woolwich stone, now much in request; which I accepted, the values not being great: and then, at my asking, did give me an old draught of an ancient-built ship, given him by his father, of the *Bear* in Queen Elizabeth's time. Mr. Hunt, newly come out of the country, tells me the country is much impoverished by the greatness of taxes; the farmers do break every day almost, and £1,000 a-year become not worth £500. He told me some ridiculous pieces of thrift of Sir G. Downing's, who is his countryman, in inviting some poor people at Christmas last to charm the country people's mouths; but did give them nothing but beef, porridge, pudding, and pork, and nothing said all dinner but only his mother would say, "It's good

broth, son." He would answer, "Yes, it is good broth." Then says his lady, "Confirm all and say, Yes, very good broth." By-and-by she would begin and say, "Good pork:" "Yes," says the mother, "good pork." Then he cries, "Yes, very good pork." And so they said of all things; to which nobody made any answer, they going there not out of love or esteem of them, but to eat his victuals, knowing him to be a niggardly fellow; and with this he is jeered now all over the country. Comes Captain Story of Cambridge, to me, about a bill for prest money; but, Lord! to see the natures of men; how this man, hearing my name did ask me of my country, and told me of my cousin Roger, that he was not so wise a man as his father; for that he do not agree in Parliament with his fellow-burgesses and knights of the shire, whereas I know very well the reason; for he is not so high a flyer as Mr. Chichley and others, but loves the King better than any of them, and to better purpose. But yet, he says that he is a very honest gentleman, and thence runs into a hundred stories of his own services to the King, and how he at this day brings in the taxes before anybody here thinks they are collected: discourse very absurd to entertain a stranger with. Met Mr. Cooling, who tells me of my Lord Duke of Buckingham's being sent for last night by a serjeant-at-arms, to the Tower, for treasonable practices, and that the King is infinitely angry with

him, and declared him no longer one of his Council. I know not the reason of it, or occasion. Took up my wife to the Exchange, and there bought things for Mrs. Pierce's little daughter, my valentine, and so to our house, where we find Knipp, who also challengeth me for her valentine. She looks well, sang well, and very merry we were for half an hour. Tells me Harris is well again, having been very ill. To Sir W. Pen's, and sat with my Lady and the young couple (Sir William out of town) talking merrily; but they make a very sorry couple, methinks, though rich.

28th. Mr. Holliard dined with us, and pleasant company he is. I love his company, and he secures me against ever having the stone again. He gives it me as his opinion, that the City will never be built again together as is expected, while any restraint is laid upon them. He hath been a great loser, and would be a builder again, but, he says, he knows not what restricting there will be, so as it is unsafe for him to begin. I did within these six days see smoke still remaining of the late fire in the City; and it is strange to think how, to this very day, I cannot sleep at night without great terrors of fire. Mr. Gauden tells me more than I knew before—that he hath orders to get all the victuals he can to Plymouth and the Western Ports, and other out-ports, and some to Scotland, so that we do intend to keep but a flying fleet this year; which, it may be, may preserve us a

year longer, but the end of it must be ruin. Sir J. Minnes this night tells me that he hears for certain, that ballads are made of us in Holland for begging of a peace; which I expected, but am vexed at. So ends this month, with nothing of weight upon my mind, but for my father and mother, who are both very ill, and have been so for some weeks: whom God help! but I do fear my poor father will hardly be ever naturally well again.

*March 1st.* In Mark Lane I do observe, it being St. David's day, the picture of a man dressed like a Welshman, hanging by the neck upon one of the poles that stand out at the top of one of the merchants' houses, in full proportion, and very handsomely done; which is one of the oddest sights I have seen a good while. Being returned home, I find Greeting the flageolet-master come, and teaching my wife; and I do think my wife will take pleasure in it, and it will be easy for her, and pleasant. So to the office, and then before dinner making my wife to sing. Poor wretch! her ear is so bad that it made me angry, till the poor wretch cried to see me so vexed at her, that I think I shall not discourage her so much again, but will endeavour to make her understand sounds, and do her good that way; for she hath a great mind to learn, only to please me. Tom Woodall, the known chirurgeon, is killed at Somerset House by a Frenchman, in a drunken quarrel.

After dinner, with my wife to the King's  
see *The Murther Queen*, a new play of Dry-  
den's, highly commended for the regularity of it,  
strain and wit; and the truth is there is a  
part done by Nell, which is Florimel, that I  
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(Lord's day.) To Whitehall, where, walking in  
the galleries, I met Mr. Pierce, who tells me the story  
of Woodall the surgeon, killed in a drunken  
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Pierce] one of his places in St. Thomas's  
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Flanders, demanding leave, to pass through their country towards Poland, but is denied, and thereupon that he is gone into the country. How true this is I dare not believe till I hear more. I walked into the Park, it being a fine but very cold day: and there took two or three turns the length of the Pall Mall: and there I met Serjeant Bearcroft, who was sent for the Duke of Buckingham to have brought him prisoner to the Tower. He came to town this day, and brings word that, being overtaken and outrid by the Duchess of Buckingham within a few miles of Westhorp, he believes she got thither about a quarter of an hour before him, and so had time to consider; so that when he came, the doors were kept shut against him. The next day, coming with officers of the neighbour market-town to force open the doors, they were open for him, but the Duke gone; so he took horse presently, and heard upon the road that the Duke of Buckingham was gone before him for London: so that he believes he is this day also come to town before him, but no news is yet heard of him. This is all he brings. Thence to my Lord Chancellor's, and there, meeting Sir H. Cholmly, he and I walked in my Lord's garden, and talked; and among other things, of the treaty: and he says there will certainly be a peace, but I cannot believe it. He tells me that the Duke of Buckingham his crimes, as far as he knows, are his being of a cabal with some discontented persons

of the late House of Commons, and opposing the desires of the King in all his matters in that House; and endeavouring to become popular, and advising how the Commons' House should proceed, and how he would order the House of Lords. And that he hath been endeavouring to have the King's nativity calculated; which was done, and the fellow now in the Tower about it: which itself hath heretofore, as he says, been held treason, and people died for it; but by the statute of treason, in Queen Mary's times and since, it hath been left out. He tells me that this silly Lord hath provoked, by his ill carriage, the Duke of York, my Lord Chancellor, and all the great persons; and therefore, most likely will die. He tells me too, many practices of treachery against this King; as betraying him in Scotland, and giving Oliver an account of the King's private councils; which the King knows very well, and hath yet pardoned him.

6th. To Whitehall; and here the Duke of York did acquaint us, and the King did the like also, afterwards coming in, with his resolution of altering the manner of the war this year; that is, we shall keep what fleet we have abroad in several squadrons: so that now all is come out; but we are to keep it as close as we can, without hindering the work that is to be done in preparation to this. Great preparations there are to fortify Sheerness and the yard at Portsmouth, and

year longer, but the end of it must be ruin. Sir J. Minnes this night tells me that he hears for certain, that ballads are made of us in Holland for begging of a peace; which I expected, but am vexed at. So ends this month, with nothing of weight upon my mind, but for my father and mother, who are both very ill, and have been so for some weeks: whom God help! but I do fear my poor father will hardly be ever naturally well again.

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2nd. After dinner, with my wife to the King's house to see *The Maidens Queen*, a new play of Dryden's, mightily commended for the regularity of it, and the strain and wit; and the truth is there is a comical part done by Nell, which is Florimel, that I never can hope ever to see the like done again, by man or woman. The King and Duke of York were at the play. But so great performance of a comical part was never, I believe, in the world before as Nell does this, both as a mad girl, then most and best of all when she comes in like a young gallant, and hath the motions and carriage of a spark the most that ever I saw any man have. It makes me, I confess, admire her.

3rd. (Lord's day.) To Whitehall, where, walking in the galleries, I met Mr. Pierce, who tells me the story of Tom Woodall the surgeon, killed in a drunken quarrel, and how the Duke of York hath a mind to get him [Pierce] one of his places in St. Thomas's Hospital. It is believed that the Dutch will yield to have the treaty at London or Dover, neither of which will get our King any credit, we having already consented to have it at the Hague; which, it seems, De Witt opposed as a thing wherein the King of England must needs have some profound design, which in my conscience he hath not. They do also tell me that news is this day come to the King, that the King of France is come with his army to the frontiers of

forces are drawing down to both those places, and elsewhere by the seaside; so that we have some fear of an invasion; and the Duke of York himself did declare his expectation of the enemy's blocking us up here in the river, and therefore directed that we should send away all the ships that we have to fit out hence. Sir W. Pen told me, going with me this morning to Whitehall, that for certain the Duke of Buckingham is brought in to the Tower, and that he hath had an hour's private conference with the King before he was sent thither. Everybody complains of the dearness of coals, being at £4 per chaldron, the weather, too, being become most bitter cold, the King saying to-day that it was coldest day he ever knew in England. Thence by coach to my Lord Crewe's, where very welcome. Here I find they are in doubt where the Duke of Buckingham is; which makes me mightily reflect on the uncertainty of all history, when, in a business of this moment, and of this day's growth, we cannot tell the truth. Here dined my old acquaintance, Mr. Borfett, that was my Lord Sandwich's chaplain, and my Lady Wright and Dr. Boreman, who is preacher at St. Giles's in the Fields, who, after dinner, did give my Lord an account of two papist women lately converted, whereof one wrote her recantation, which he showed under her own hand mighty well drawn, so as my Lord desired a copy of it, after he had satisfied himself from the Dr., that to his knowledge, she was not a woman under any

necessity. To Deptford, and then by water home, wondrous cold, and reading a ridiculous ballad, made in praise of the Duke of Albemarle, to the tune of St. George, the tune being printed, too; and I observe that people have great encouragement to make ballads of him of this kind. There are so many, that hereafter he will sound like Guy of Warwick. To Sir H. Cholmly's, a pretty house, and a fine, worthy, well-disposed gentleman he is. He tells me, among other things, that he hears of little hopes of a peace, their demands being so high as we shall never grant, and could tell me that we shall keep no fleet abroad this year, but only squadrons. So to the 'Change, and there bought 32s. worth of things for Mrs. Knipp, my valentine, which is pretty to see how my wife is come to convention with me, that, whatever I do give to anybody else, I shall give her as much.

7th. Hearing that Knipp is at my house, I home, and it is about a ticket for a friend of hers. I do love the humour of the jade very well. To Devonshire House, to a burial of a kinsman of Sir R. Viner's; and there I received a ring. To the Duke's playhouse, and saw *The English Princess, or Richard the Third*; a most sad, melancholy play, and pretty good; but nothing eminent in it, as some tragedies are; only little Miss Davis did dance a jig after the end of the play, and there telling the next day's play; so that it came in by force only to please the company to see her dance

in boy's clothes; and, the truth is, there is no comparison between Nell's dancing the other day at the King's house in boy's clothes and this, this being infinitely beyond the other. This day, Commissioner Taylor came to me for advice, and would force me to take ten pieces in gold of him, which I had no mind to, he being become one of our number at the Board. This day was reckoned by all people the coldest day that ever was remembered in England; and God knows! coals at a very great price.

8th. To Westminster Hall, where I saw Mr. Martin, the purser, come through with a picture in his hand, which he had bought, and observed how all the people of the Hall did flee and laugh upon him, crying, "There is plenty grown upon a sudden;" and, the truth is, I was a little troubled that my favour should fall on so vain a fellow as he, and the more because, methought, the people do gaze on me as the man that had raised him, as if they guessed whence my kindness to him springs. To Whitehall, where I find all met at the Duke of York's chamber; and, by-and-by, the Duke of York comes, and Carcasse is called in, and I read the depositions and his answers, and he added with great confidence and good words, even almost to persuasion, what to say; and, my Lord Brouncker, like a very silly solicitor, argued against me, and all for him; and, being asked first by the Duke of York his opinion, did give it for his being excused. I next

did answer the contrary very plainly, and had, in this dispute, which vexed and will never be forgot by my Lord, many occasions of speaking severely, and did, against his bad practices. Commissioner Pett, like a fawning rogue, sided with my Lord, but to no purpose; and Sir W. Pen, like a cunning rogue, spoke mighty indifferently, and said nothing in all the fray, like a knave, as he is. But Sir W. Datten spoke out, and did come off himself by the Duke's kindness very well; and then Sir G. Carteret, and Sir W. Coventry, and the Duke of York himself, flatly as I said; and so he was declared unfit to continue in, and therefore to be presently discharged the office; which, among other good effects, I hope, will make my Lord Brouncker not *alloquer* so high. Sir H. Cholmly and I to the Temple, and there parted, he telling me of my Lord Bellassis's want of generosity, and that he [Bellassis] will certainly be turned out of his government, and he [Cholmly] thinks himself stands fair for it.

9th. Captain Cocke, who was here to-night, did tell us that he is certain that yesterday a proclamation was voted, at the Council, touching the proclaiming of my Lord Duke of Buckingham a traitor, and that it will be out on Monday.

10th. (Lord's day.) Yesterday the King did publicly talk of the King of France's dealing with all the Princes of Christendom. As to the States of Holland, he [the King of France] hath advised them, on good



grounds, to refuse to treat with us at the Hague, because of having opportunity of spies, by reason of our interest in the House of Orange; and then, it being a town in one particular province, it would not be fit to have it, but in a town wherein the provinces have equal interest, as at Maestricht, and other places named. That he advises them to offer no terms, nor accept of any, without his privacy and consent, according to agreement; and tells them, if not so, he hath in his power to be even with them, the King of England being come to offer any terms he pleases: and that my Lord St. Albans is now at Paris, Plenipotentiary, to make what peace he pleases; and so he can make it, and exclude them, the Dutch, if he sees fit. A copy of this letter of the King of France's the Spanish Ambassador here gets, and comes and tells all to our King; which our King denies, and says the King of France only uses his power of saying anything. At the same time, the King of France writes to the Emperor, that he is resolved to do all things to express affection to the Emperor, having it now in his power to make what peace he pleases between the King of England and him, and the states of the United Provinces; and, therefore, that he would not have him concern himself in a friendship with us; and assures him that, on that regard, he will not offer anything to his disturbance, in his interest in Flanders, or elsewhere. He writes, at the same time, to Spain, to tell

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England and would take the King and his affairs, during  
his minority, into his protection, nor would offer to set  
him in Flanders, or anywhere else, to disturb him;  
therefore, would not have him to trouble himself  
for a peace with anybody; only he hath a desire to  
an exchange, which he thinks may be of moment  
on both sides: that is, that he [France] will instate  
Philip of Spain in the kingdom of Portugal, and he  
the Dutch will put him into possession of Lisbon;  
and when that is done, he [France] may have Flanders:  
for they say, do mightily take in Spain, which is  
the cause of the fruitless expense Flanders, so far off,  
and so dear; and how much better it would be for them  
to be master of Portugal; and the King of France  
for security herein, that the King of England  
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him that he wonders to hear of a league almost ended between the Crown of Spain and England, by my Lord Sandwich, and all without his privity, while he was making a peace upon what terms he pleased with England: that he is a great lover of the Crown of Spain, and would take the King and his affairs, during his minority, into his protection, nor would offer to set his foot in Flanders, or anywhere else, to disturb him; and, therefore, would not have him to trouble himself to make peace with anybody; only he hath a desire to offer an exchange, which he thinks may be of moment to both sides: that is, that he [France] will instate the King of Spain in the kingdom of Portugal, and he and the Dutch will put him into possession of Lisbon; and, that being done, he [France] may have Flanders: and this, they say, do mightily take in Spain, which is sensible of the fruitless expense Flanders, so far off, gives them; and how much better it would be for them to be master of Portugal; and the King of France offers, for security herein, that the King of England shall be bond for him, and that he will counter-secure the King of England with Amsterdam; and, it seems, hath assured our King, that if he will make a league with him, he will make a peace exclusive to the Hollander. These things are almost romantic, but yet true, as Sir H. Cholmly tells me the King himself did relate it all yesterday; and it seems as if the King of France did think other princes fit for nothing but to

me that he had ordered us £30,000 on the same tax but that is not what we would have to bring, our payments to come within a year. So we gone out, in went others; viz., one after another, Sir Stephen Fox for the army, Captain Cocke for sick and wounded, Mr. Ashburnham for the household. Thence Sir W. Batten, Sir W. Pen, and I, back again; I mightily pleased with what I had said and done, and the success thereof.

15th. Letters this day come to Court do tell us that we are not likely to agree, the Dutch demanding high terms, and the King of France the like, in a most braving manner. This morning I was called up by Sir John Winter, poor man! come in a sedan from the other end of the town, about helping the King in the business of bringing down his timber to the sea-side, in the Forest of Dean.

16th. The weather is now grown warm again, after much cold; and it is observable that within these eight days I did see smoke remaining, coming out of some cellars, from the late great fire, now above six months since.

17th. (Lord's day.) To Whitehall Chapel. There I put my wife in the pew below, but it was pretty to see myself being but in a plain band, and every way else ordinary, how the verger took me for her man, and I was fain to tell him she was a kinswoman of my Lord Sandwich's, he saying, that none under knights.

baronets' ladies are to go into that pew. I to the Duke of York's lodging, where in his dressing-chamber, he talking of his journey to-morrow or next day to Harwich, to prepare some fortifications there; so that we are wholly upon the defensive part this year. I to walk in the Park, where to the Queen's chapel, and there heard a friar preach with his cord about his middle, in Portuguese, something I could understand, showing that God did respect the meek and humble, as well as the high and rich. He was full of action, but very decent and good, I thought, and his manner of delivery very good. Then I went back to Whitehall, and there up to the closet, and spoke with several people till sermon was ended, which was preached by the Bishop of Hereford, an old good man, that they say made an excellent sermon. He was by birth a Catholic, and a great gallant, having £1,500 per annum, patrimony, and is a Knight Baronet; was turned from his persuasion by the late Archbishop Laud. He and the Bishop of Exeter, Dr. Ward, are the two Bishops that the King do say he cannot have had sermons from. Here I met with Sir H. Cholmly, who tells me, that undoubtedly my Lord Bellassis do go no more to Tangier, and that he do believe he do stand in a likely way to go Governor; though he sees and showed me, a young silly lord, one Lord Allington, who hath offered a great sum of money to go, and will put hard for it, he having a fine lady, and a great man would be

glad to have him out of the way. The King is very kind to my Lord Sandwich, and did himself observe to Sir G. Carteret, how those very people, meaning the Prince and Duke of Albemarle, are punished in the same kind as they did seek to abuse my Lord Sandwich.

18th. Comes my old good friend, Mr. Richard Cumberland, to see me, being newly come to town, whom I have not seen almost, if not quite, these seven years. In a plain country-parson's dress. I could not spend much time with him, but prayed him to come with his brother, who was with him, to dine with me to-day; which he did do; and I had a great deal of his good company; and a most excellent person he is as any I know, and one that I am sorry should be lost and buried in a little country town, and would be glad to remove him thence; and the truth is, if he would accept of my sister's fortune, I should give £100 more with him than to a man able to settle her four times as much as, I fear, he is able to do; and I will think of it, and a way how to move it, he having in discourse said he was not against marrying, nor yet engaged. Comes Captain Jenifer to me, a great servant of my Lord Sandwich's, who tells me that he do hear for certain, though I do not yet believe it, that Sir W. Coventry is to be Secretary of State, and my Lord Arlington, Lord Treasurer. I only wish that the latter were as fit for the latter office as the former is for the

former, and more fit than my Lord Arlington. Anon Sir W. Pen. came and talked with me in the garden, and tells me that for certain the Duke of Richmond is to marry Mrs. Stewart, he having this day brought in an account of his estate and debts to the King on that account. My father's letter this day do tell me of his own continued illness, and that my mother grows so much worse, that he fears she cannot long continue, which troubles me very much. This day, Mr. Cæsar told me a pretty experiment of his, of angling with a minnikin, a gut-string varnished over, which keeps it from swelling, and is beyond any hair for strength and smallness. The secret I like mightily.

19th. It comes in my mind this night to set down how a house was the other day in Bishopgate Street blowed up with powder; a house that was untenanted; but thanks be to God, it did no more hurt; and all do conclude it a plot. This afternoon I am told again that the town do talk of my Lord Arlington's being to be Lord Treasurer, and Sir W. Coventry to be Secretary of State; and that for certain the match is concluded between the Duke of Richmond and Mrs. Stewart, which I am well enough pleased with; and it is pretty to consider how his quality will allay people's talk; whereas had a meaner person married her, he would for certain have been derided at first dash.

20th. To our church to the vestry, to be assessed by the late Poll Bill, where I am rated as an Esquire, and



for my office, all will come to about £50. But not more than I expected, nor so much by a great deal as I ought to be, for all my offices. The Duke of Richmond and Mrs. Stewart were betrothed last night. It is strange how "Rycaut's Discourse of Turkey," which before the fire I was asked but 8s. for, there being all but twenty-two or thereabouts burned, I did now offer 20s., and he demands 50s., and I think I shall give it him, though it be only as a monument of the fire. I met with a sad letter from my brother, who tells me my mother is declared by the doctors to be past recovery, and that my father is also very ill: so that I fear we shall see a sudden change there. God fit them and us for it!

21st. To the Duke of York's playhouse, where unexpectedly I came to see only the young men and women of the house act; they having liberty to act for their own profit on Wednesdays and Fridays this Lent: and the play they did yesterday, being Wednesday, was so well taken, that they thought fit to venture it publicly to-day; a play of my Lord Falkland's called *The Wedding Night*, a kind of a tragedy, and some things very good in it, but the whole together, I thought, not so. I confess I was well enough pleased with my seeing it: and the people did do better, without the great actors, than I did expect, but yet far short of what they do when they are there. Our trial for a good prize came on to-day, *The Phoenix*, worth £2,000 or £3,000,

when by-and-by Sir W. Batten told me we had got the day, which was mighty welcome news to me and us all. But it is pretty to see what money will do. Yesterday Walker was mighty cold on our behalf, till Sir W. Batten promised him, if we sped in this business of the goods, a coach; and if at the next trial we sped for the ship, we would give him a pair of horses. And he hath strove for us to-day like a prince, though the Swedes' Agent was there with all the vehemence he could to save the goods, but yet we carried it against him.

22nd. My wife having dressed herself in a silly dress of a blue petticoat uppermost, and a white satin waistcoat and white hood, though I think she did it because her gown is gone to the tailor's, did, together with my being hungry, which always makes me peevish, make me angry. The Duke of York, instead of being at sea as Admiral, is now going from port to port, as he is this day at Harwich, and was the other day with the King at Sheerness, and hath ordered at Portsmouth how fortifications shall be made to oppose the enemy, in case of invasion, which is to us a sad consideration, and shameful to the nation, especially for so many proud vaunts as we have made against the Dutch, and all from the folly of the Duke of Albemarle, who did throw us into this war.

23rd. At the office, where Sir W. Pen came, being returned from Chatham, from considering the means

of fortifying the river Medway, by a chain at the stakes, and ships laid there with guns to keep the enemy from coming up to burn our ships; all our care now being to fortify ourselves against their invading us. Vexed with our maid Luce, our cookmaid, who is a good drudging servant in everything else, and pleases us, but that she will be drunk, and hath been so last night and all this day, that she could not make clean the house. My fear is only fire.

24th. (Lord's day.) With Sir G. Carteret and Sir J. Minnes: and they did talk of my Lord Brouncker, whose father, it seems, did give Mr. Ashburnham and the present Lord Bristol £1,200 to be made an Irish lord, and swore the same day that he had not 12d. left to pay for his dinner: they made great mirth at this, my Lord Brouncker having lately given great matter of offence both to them and us all, that we are at present mightily displeased with him. By-and-by to the Duke of York, where we all met, and there was the King also; and all our discourse was about fortifying of the Medway and Harwich, which is to be entrenched quite round, and Portsmouth: and here they advised with Sir Godfrey Lloyd and Sir Bernard de Gunn, the two great engineers, and had the plates drawn before them; and indeed all their care they now take is to fortify themselves, and are not ashamed of it; for when by-and-by my Lord Arlington came in with letters, and seeing the King and the Duke of York

give us and the officers of the Ordnance directions in this matter, he did move that we might do it as privately as we could, that it might not come into the Dutch Gazette presently, as the King's and Duke of York's going down the other day to Sheerness was, the week after, in the Harlem Gazette. The King and Duke of York both laughed at it, and made no matter, but said, "Let us be safe, and let them talk. for there is nothing will trouble them more, nor will prevent their coming more, than to hear that we are fortifying ourselves." And the Duke of York said further, "What said Marshal Turenne, when some in vanity said that the enemies were afraid, for they entrenched themselves? 'Well,' says he, 'I would they were not afraid, for then they would not entrench themselves, and so we could deal with them the better.'" Away thence, and met with Sir H. Cholmly, who tells me that he do believe the Government of Tangier is bought by my Lord Allington for a sum of money to my Lord Arlington, and something to Lord Bellasis. I did this night give the waterman who uses to carry me 10s. at his request, for the painting of his new boat, on which shall be my arms.

25th. Went over Mr. Povy's house, which lies in the same good condition as ever, which is most extraordinary fine, and he was now at work with a cabinet-maker, making of a new inlaid table. Called at Mr. Lilly's, who was working; and indeed his pictures are

without doubt much beyond Mr. Hales's, I think I may say I am convinced: but, a mighty proud man he is, and full of state. To the King's playhouse; and by-and-by comes Mr. Lowther and his wife and mine, and into a box, forsooth, neither of them being dressed, which I was almost ashamed of. Sir W. Pen and I in the pit, and here saw *The Maiden Queen* again; which, indeed, the more I see the more I like, and is an excellent play, and so done by Nell, her merry part, as cannot be better done in nature.

26th. I have cause to be joyful this day, for my being cut of the stone this day nine years. The condition I am in, in reference to my mother, makes it unfit for me to keep my usual feast. To Exeter House, where the Judge was sitting, and there heard our cause pleaded, Sir — Turner, Sir W. Walker, and Sir Ellis Layton being our counsel against only Sir Robert Wiseman on the other. The second of our three counsel was the best, and indeed did speak admirably, and is a very shrewd man. Nevertheless, as good as he did make our case, and the rest, yet when Wiseman came to argue, nay, and though he did begin so sillily that we laughed in scorn in our sleeves at him, he did so state the case, that the Judge did not think fit to decide the cause to-night, but took to tomorrow, and did stagger us in our hopes, so as to make us despair of the success. I am mightily pleased with

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for his merit and ability sake from Trinity  
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good part, thanks be to God: received from my brother the news of my mother's dying on Monday, about five or six o'clock in the afternoon, and that the last time she spoke of her children was on Friday last, and her last words were, "God bless my poor Sam!" The reading thereof did set me a weeping heartily. Found it necessary to go abroad with my wife to look after the providing mourning to send into the country—some to-morrow, and more against Sunday, for my family, being resolved to put myself and wife, and Barker and Jane, W. Hewer and Tom, in mourning, and my two under-maids, to give them hoods and scarfs and gloves. So to my tailor's, and up and down, and then home, and to bed, my heart sad, though my judgment at ease.

28th. I down by water to our prize, part of whose goods were condemned yesterday—the *Lindeboome*—and there we did drink some of her wine, very good. But it did grate my heart to see the poor master come on board, and look about into every corner, and find fault that she was not so clean as she used to be, though methought she was very clean; and to see his

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new masters come in, that had nothing to do with her, did trouble me to see him.

29th. The great streets in the city are marked out with piles drove into the ground; and if ever it be built in that form, with so fair streets, it will be a noble sight. To a periwig-maker's, and there bought two periwigs, mighty fine; indeed, too fine, I thought, for me; but he persuaded me, and I did buy them for £4 10s. the two. To the "Bull Head" tavern, whither was brought my French gun; and one Truelocke, the famous gunsmith, that is a mighty ingenious man, did take my gun in pieces, and made me understand the secrets thereof; and upon the whole I do find it a very good piece of work, and truly wrought; but for certain not a thing to be used much with safety; and he do find that this very gun was never yet shot off. Balty tells me strange stories of his mother. Among others, how she, in his absence in Holland, did pawn all the things that he had got in his service under Oliver, and run of her own accord, without her husband's leave, into Flanders, and that his purse, and 4s. a week which his father gives of the French church, is all the subsistence he and mother have, and that about £2000 he has of them; which, if it please God, I will be able to provide for them, to re-

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the Judge, who seems a very rational, learned, and uncorrupt man, though our success doth shake me.

27th. I heard from Sir John Bankes, though I cannot fully conceive the reason of it, that it will be impossible to make the Exchequer ever a true bank to all intents, unless the Exchequer stood nearer the Exchange, where merchants might with ease, while they are going about their business, at all hours, and without trouble or loss of time, have their satisfaction, which they cannot have now without much trouble, and loss of half a day, and no certainty of having the offices open. To the "Castle" tavern, by Exeter House; and there Sir Ellis Layton, whom I find a wonderful witty, ready man for sudden answers and little tales, and sayings very extraordinary witty. He did give me a full account, upon my demand, of this Judge of the Admiralty, Judge Jenkins; who, he says, is a man never practised in this Court, but taken merely for his merit and ability sake from Trinity Hall, where he had always lived; only by accident the business of the want of a Judge being proposed, the present Archbishop of Canterbury sent for him up; and here he is, against the *gré* and content of the old Doctors, made Judge, but is a very excellent man both for judgment and temper, yet majesty enough, and by all men's report, not to be corrupted. After dinner to the Court, where Sir Ellis Layton did make a very silly motion in our behalf, but did neither hurt nor

good. After him Walker and Wiseman; and then the Judge did pronounce his sentence; for some—a part of the goods and ship, and the freight of the whole, to be free, and returned and paid by us; and the remaining, which was the greater part, to be ours. The loss of so much troubles us; but we have got a pretty good part, thanks be to God! Received from my brother the news of my mother's dying on Monday, about five or six o'clock in the afternoon, and that the last time she spoke of her children was on Friday last, and her last words were, "God bless my poor Sam!" The reading thereof did set me a weeping heartily. Found it necessary to go abroad with my wife to look after the providing mourning to send into the country—some to-morrow, and more against Sunday, for my family, being resolved to put myself and wife, and Barker and Jane, W. Hewer and Tom, in mourning, and my two under-maids, to give them hoods and scarfs and gloves. So to my tailor's, and up and down, and then home, and to bed, my heart sad, though my judgment at ease.

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30th. To see the silly play of my Lady Newcastle's, called *The Humorous Lovers*; the most silly thing

that ever came upon a stage. I was sick to see it, but yet would not but have seen it, that I might the better understand her. Here I spied Knipp and Betty, of the King's house, and sent Knipp oranges, but, having little money about me, did not offer to carry them abroad.

31st. (Lord's day.) To church; and with my mourning, very handsome, and new periwig, make a great show. Walked to my Lord Treasurer's, where the King, Duke of York, and the Cabal, and much Company without; and a fine day. Anon came out from the Cabal my Lord Hollis and Mr. H. Coventry, who, it is conceived, have received their instructions from the King this day; they being to begin their journey towards their treaty at Breda speedily, their passes being come. Here I saw the Lady Northumberland and her daughter-in-law, my Lord Treasurer's daughter, my Lady Piercy, a beautiful lady indeed. The month shuts up only with great desires of peace in all of us, and a belief that we shall have a peace, in most people, if it can be had on any terms, for there is a necessity of it; for we cannot go on with the war, and our Masters are afraid to come to depend upon the goodwill of the Parliament any more, as I do here.

April 1st. To Whitehall, and there had the good fortune to walk with Sir W. Coventry into the garden, and there read our melancholy letter to the Duke of York, which he likes. And so to talk: and he flatly

owns that we must have a peace, for we cannot set out a fleet: and to use his own words, he fears that we shall soon have enough of fighting in this new way, which we have thought on for this year. He bemoans the want of money, and discovers himself jealous that Sir G. Carteret do not look after, or concern himself for getting money; and did further say, that he [Carteret] and my Lord Chancellor do at this very day labour all they can to vilify this new way of raising money, and making it payable, as it now is, into the Exchequer: and that in pursuance hereof, my Lord Chancellor hath prevailed with the King, in the close of his speech to the House, to say, that he did hope to see them come to give money as it used to be given, without so many provisoes, meaning this new method of the Act. While we were talking, there came Sir Thomas Allen with two ladies, one of which was Mrs. Rebecca Allen, that I knew heretofore, the clerk of the rope-yard's daughter at Chatham, poor heart! come to desire favour for her husband, who is clapt up, being a Lieutenant [Jewkes] for sending a challenge to his Captain in the most saucy, base language that could be writ. I perceive Sir W. Coventry is wholly resolved to bring him to punishment; for "bear with this," says he, "and no discipline shall ever be expected." Sir J. Minnes did tell of the discovery of his own great-grandfather's murder, fifteen years after he was murdered. Mrs. Turner came to my office, and did walk an hour

with me in the garden, telling me stories how Sir Edward Spragge hath lately made love to our neighbour, a widow, Mrs. Hollworthy, who is a woman of estate and wit and spirit, and do contemn him the most, and sent him away with the greatest scorn in the world; also odd stories how the parish talks of Sir W. Pen's family, how poorly they clothe their daughter so soon after marriage, and do say that Mr. Lowther was married once before, and some such thing there hath been, whatever the bottom of it is. But to think of the clatter they make with his coach, and his own fine clothes, and yet how meanly they live within doors, and nastily, and borrowing everything of neighbours.

2nd. Mr. Deane hath promised me a very fine draught of the *Rupert*, which I will make one of the beautifullest things that ever was seen of the kind, she being a ship that will deserve it.

3rd. To the Duke of York, where Sir G. Carteret did say that he had no funds to raise money on; and being asked by Sir W. Coventry whether the eleven months' tax was not a fund, he answered, "No; that the bankers would not lend money upon it." Then Sir W. Coventry burst out and said he did supplicate his Royal Highness, and would do the same to the King, that he would remember who they were that did persuade the King from parting with the Chimney-money to the Parliament, and taking that in lieu which they certainly would have given, and which would have

raised infallibly ready money: meaning the bankers and the farmers of the Chimney-money, whereof Sir G. Carteret, I think, is one; saying plainly, that whoever did advise the King to that, did, as much as in them lay, cut the King's throat, and did wholly betray ~~him~~; to which the Duke of York did assent; and remembered that the King did say again and again at the time, that he was assured, and did fully believe, the money would be raised presently upon a land-tax. This put us all into a stound; and Sir W. Coventry went on to declare, that he was glad he was come to have so lately concern in the Navy as he hath, for he cannot now give any good account of the Navy business; and that all his work now was to be able to provide such orders as would justify his Royal Highness in the business, when it shall be called to account: and that he do do, not concerning himself whether they are or can be performed, or no; and that when it comes to be examined, and falls on my Lord Treasurer, he cannot help it, whatever the issue of it shall be. One thing more Sir W. Coventry did say to the Duke of York, when I moved again, that of about £9,000 debt to Lanyon, at Plymouth, he might pay £3,700 worth of prize-goods, that he bought lately at the candle, out of this debt due to him from the King; and the Duke of York and Sir G. Carteret, and Lord Barkeley, saying, all of them, that my Lord Ashly would not be got to yield to it, who is Treasurer of the Prizes, Sir W.



Coventry did plainly desire that it might be declared, whether the proceeds of the prizes were to go to the helping on of the war, or no; and, if it were, how then could this be denied? which put them all into another stound; and it is true, God forgive us! Thence to the chapel, and there, by chance, hear that Dr. Crewe is to preach; and so into the organ loft, where I met Mr. Carteret, and my Lady Jemimah, and Sir Thomas Crewe's two daughters, and Dr. Childe playing; and Dr. Crewe did make a very pretty, neat, sober, honest sermon: and delivered it very readily, decently, and gravely, beyond his years; so as I was exceedingly taken with it, and I believe the whole chapel, he being but young: but his manner of his delivery I do like exceedingly. His text was, "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." The Dutch letters are come, and say that the Dutch have ordered a pass to be sent for our Commissioners, and that it is now upon the way, coming with a trumpeter blinded, as is usual. But I perceive everybody begins to doubt the success of the treaty, all their hopes being only that if it can be had on any terms, the Chancellor will have it; for he dare not come before a Parliament, nor a great many more of the courtiers, and the King himself do declare he do not desire it, nor intend, but on a strait; which God defend him from! Here I hear how the King is not so well pleased of this marriage

between the Duke of Richmond and Mrs. Stewart, as is talked; and that he [the Duke] by a wile did fetch her to the *Bear*, at the Bridge foot, where a coach was ready, and they are stole away into Kent, without the King's leave; and that the King hath said he will never see her more: but people do think that it is only a trick. This day I saw Prince Rupert abroad in the Vane-room, pretty well as he used to be, and looks as well, only something appears to be under his periwig on the crown of his head.

4th. I find the Duke of Albemarle at dinner with sorry company, some of his officers of the army; dirty dishes, and a nasty wife at table, and bad meat, of which I made but an ill dinner. Pretty to hear how she talked against Captain Du Tell, the Frenchman, that the Prince and her husband put out the last year; and how, says she, the Duke of York hath made him, for his good services, his cup-bearer; yet he fired more shot into the Prince's ship, and others of the King's ships, than of the enemy. And the Duke of Albemarle did confirm it, and that somebody in the fight did cry out that a little Dutchman, by his ship did plague him more than any other; upon which they were going to order him to be sunk, when they looked and found it was Du Tell, who, as the Duke of Albemarle says, had killed several men in several of our ships. He said, but for his interest which he knew he had at Court, he had hanged him at the yard's-arm

without staying for a court-martial. One Colonel Howard at the table, magnified the Duke of Albemarle's fight in June last, as being a greater action than ever was done by Cæsar. The Duke of Albemarle did say it had been no great action, had all his number fought as they should have done, to have beat the Dutch; but of his fifty-five ships, not above twenty-five fought. He did give an account that it was a fight he was forced to: the Dutch being come in his way, and he being ordered to the buoy off the Nore, he could not pass by them without fighting, nor avoid them without great disadvantage and dishonour; and this Sir G. Carteret, I afterwards giving him an account of what he said, says is true, that he was ordered up to the Nore. But I remember he said, had all his captains fought, he would no more have doubted to have beat the Dutch, with all their number, than to eat the apple that lay on his trencher. My Lady Duchess, among other things, discoursed of the wisdom of dividing the fleet; which the general said nothing to, though he knew well that it came from themselves in the fleet, and was brought up hither by Sir Edward Spragge. Colonel Howard, asking how the Prince did, the Duke of Albemarle answering, "Pretty well;" the other replied, "But not so well as to go to sea again."—"How!" says the Duchess, "what should he go for if he were well, for there are no ships for him to command? and so you have brought your hogs

to a fair market," said she. It was pretty to hear the Duke of Albemarle himself to wish that they would come on our ground, meaning the French, for that he would pay them, so as to make them glad to go back to France again; which was like a general, but not like an admiral. One at the table told an odd passage in this late plague: that at Petersfield, I think he said, one side of the street had every house almost infected through the town, and the other, not one shut up. Dinner being done, Balty and I to the Park, and out of pity to his father, told him what I had in my thoughts to do for him about the money—that is, to make him Deputy Treasurer to the fleet, which I have done by getting Sir G. Carteret's consent, and an order from the Duke of York for £1,500 pounds to be paid to him. He promises the whole profit to be paid to my wife, to be disposed of as she sees fit, for her father and mother's relief. I made Sir G. Carteret merry with telling him how many land-admirals we are to have this year: Allen at Plymouth, Holmes at Portsmouth, Spragge for Medway, Teddiman at Dover, Smith to the northward, and Harman to the southward. My Lady Carteret was on the bed to-day, having been let blood, and tells me of my Lady Jemimah's being big-bellied. With Sir Stephen Fox, talking of the sad condition of the King's purse, and affairs thereby; and how sad the King's life must be, to pass by his officers every hour, that are four years

behindhand unpaid. My Lord Barkeley [of Stratton] I met with there, and fell into talk with him on the same thing, wishing to God that it might be remedied, to which he answered, with an oath, that it was as easy to remedy it as anything in the world; saying that there is himself and three more would venture their carcasses upon it to pay all the King's debts in three years, had they the managing his revenue, and putting £300,000 in his purse as a stock. But Lord! what a thing is this to me, that do show how likely a man my Lord Barkeley of all the world is, to do such a thing as this. Sir W. Coventry tells me plainly, that to all future complaints of lack of money, he will answer but with the shrug of the shoulder; which methought did come to my heart to see him to begin to abandon the King's affairs, and let them sink or swim. My wife had been to-day at Whitehall to the Maundy, it being Maundy Thursday; but the King did not wash the poor people's feet himself, but the Bishop of London did it for him. To Hackney, where good neat's tongue and things to eat and drink, and very merry, the weather being mighty pleasant; and here I was told that at their church they have a fair pair of organs, which play while the people sing, which I am mighty glad of, wishing the like at our church at London, and would give £50 towards it.

5th. In the street met with Mr. Sanchy, my old acquaintance at Cambridge, reckoned a great minister

here in the City, and by Sir Richard Ford particularly, which I wonder at; for methinks in his talk he is but a mean man. Mr. Young was talking about the building of the City again: and he told me that those few churches that are to be new built are plainly not chosen with regard to the convenience of the City; they stand a great many in a cluster about Cornhill: but that all of them are either in the gift of the Lord Archbishop, or Bishop of London, or Lord Chancellor, or gift of the City. Thus all things, even to the building of churches, are done in this world! And then he says, which I wonder at, that he should not in all this time see that Moorfields have houses two stories high in them, and paved streets, the City having let leases for seven years, which he do conclude will be very much to the hindering the building of the City; but it was considered that the streets cannot be passable in London till the whole street be built; and several that had got ground of the City for charity, to build sheds on, had got the trick presently to sell that for £60 which did not cost them £20 to put up; and so the City, being very poor in stock, thought it as good to do it themselves, and therefore let leases for seven years of the ground in Moorfields; and a good deal of this money thus advanced, hath been employed for the enabling them to find some money for Commissioner Taylor and Sir W. Batten towards the charge of *The Loyal London*, or else, it is feared,

it had never been paid. This morning come to me the collectors for my poll-money; for which I paid for my title as Esquire and place of Clerk of Acts, and my head, and wife's, and servants', and their wages, £40 17s.; and though this be a great deal, yet it is a shame I should pay no more: that is, that I should not be assessed for my pay, as in the victualling business and Tangier, and for my money, which, of my own accord, I had determined to charge myself with £1,000 money, till coming to the vestry, and seeing nobody of our ablest merchants, as Sir Andrew Rickard, to do it, I thought it not decent for me to do it.

6th. To the Tower wharf, to attend the shipping of soldiers to go down to man some ships going out, and pretty to see how merrily some, and most go, and how sad others—the leave they take of their friends, and the terms that some wives, and other wenches asked to part with them: a pretty mixture. Away to the Exchange, and mercers and drapers, up and down, to pay all my scores occasioned by this mourning for my mother; and emptied a £50 bag, and it was a joy to me to see that I am able to part with such a sum, without much inconvenience: at least, without any trouble of mind.

7th. (Lord's day.) To walk in the Park, and heard the Italian music at the Queen's chapel, whose composition is fine, but yet the voice of eunuchs I do not like.

To Whitehall, and there saw the King come out of chapel after prayers in the afternoon, which he is never at but after having received the Sacrament: and the Court, I perceive, is quite out of mourning; and some very fine; among others, my Lord Gerard, in a very rich vest and coat. Here I met with my Lord Bellasis: and it is pretty to see what a formal story he tells me of his leaving his place upon the death of my Lord Cleveland, by which he is become Captain of the Pensioners; and that the King did leave it to him to keep the other or take this; whereas, I know the contrary, that they had a mind to have him away from Tangier. Into Moorfields, and did find houses built two stories high, and like to stand; and it must become a place of great trade, till the City be built; and the street is already paved as London streets used to be.

8th. Away to the Temple, to my new bookseller's: and there I did agree for Rycaut's late "History of the Turkish Policy," which cost me 55s.; whereas it was sold plain before the late fire for 8s., and bound and coloured as this is, for 20s.; for I have bought it finely bound and truly coloured, all the figures, of which there was but six books done so, whereof the King and Duke of York, and Duke of Monmouth, and Lord Arlington, had four. The fifth was sold, and I have bought the sixth. Home, and there find all things in readiness for a good dinner. By-and-by come my guests, Dr. Clerke and his wife, and Mrs. Worshipp and



her daughter; and then Mr. Pierce and his wife, and boy, and Betty; and then I sent for Mercer; so that we had, with my wife and I, twelve at table, and very good and pleasant company, and a most neat and excellent but dear dinner: but, Lord! to see with what way they looked upon all my fine plate was pleasant; for I made the best show I could, to let them understand me and my condition, to take down the pride of Mrs. Clerke, who thinks herself very great. We sat long; and, after dinner, went out by coaches, thinking to have seen a play, but came too late to both houses, and then they had thoughts of going abroad somewhere; but I thought all the charge ought to be mine, and therefore endeavoured to ~~part~~ <sup>perpetuate</sup> the company; and so ordered it to set them all down at Mrs. Pierce's; and there my wife and I and Mercer left them in good humour, and we three to the King's house, and saw the latter end of *The Surprisal*, wherein was no great matter. Thence away to Polichinello, and there had three times more sport than at the play, and so home.

9th. Towards noon, I to the Exchange, and there do hear mighty cries for peace, and that otherwise we shall be undone; and yet I do suspect the badness of the peace we shall make. Several do complain of abundance of land flung up by tenants out of their hands for want of ability to pay their rents; and by name, that the Duke of Buckingham hath £6,000 so flung up. And my father writes, that Jasper Trice

upon this pretence of his tenants' dealing with him, is broke up housekeeping, and gone to board with his brother, Naylor, at Offord; which is very sad. To the King's house, and there saw *The Taming of a Shrew*, which hath some very good pieces in it, but generally is but a mean play; and the best part, Sawny, done by Lacy; and hath not half its life, by reason of the words, I suppose, not being understood, at least by me. Sir W. Batten tells me how he hath found his lady's jewels again, which have been so long lost, and a servant imprisoned and arraigned, and they were in her closet under a china cup; but Mrs. Turner and I, and others, do believe that they were only disposed of by my lady, in case she had died, to some friends of hers, and now laid there again.

10th. I began to discourse with Sir W. Coventry the business of Tangier, which, by the removal of my Lord Bellassis, is now to have a new Governor; and did move him, that at this season all the business of reforming the garrison might be considered, while nobody was to be offended; and I told him it is plain that we do overspend our revenue; that it is of no more profit to the King than it was the first day, nor in itself of better credit; no more people of condition willing to live there, nor anything like a place likely to turn his Majesty to account: that it hath been hitherto, and, for aught I see, likely only to be used as a job to do a kindness to some Lord, or he that can

get to be Governor. Sir W. Coventry agreed with me, so as to say, that unless the King hath the wealth of the Mogul, he would be a beggar to have his businesses ordered in the manner they now are: that his garrisons must be made places only of convenience to particular persons: that he hath moved the Duke of York in it; and that it was resolved to send no Governor thither till there had been Commissioners sent to put the garrison in order, so as that he that goes may go with limitations and rules to follow, and not to do as he please, as the rest have hitherto done. That he is not afraid to speak his mind, though to the displeasure of any man; and that I know well enough; but, that, when it is come, as it is now, that to speak the truth in behalf of the King plainly does no good, but all things bore down by other measures than by what is best for the King, he hath no temptation to be perpetually fighting of battles, it being more easy to him on those terms to suffer things to go on without giving any man offence, than to have the same thing done, and he contract the displeasure of all the world, as he must do that will be for the King. To the King's little chapel; and afterwards to see the King heal the King's evil, wherein no pleasure, I having seen it before: and then to see him and the Queen, and Duke of York and his wife at dinner in the Queen's lodgings; and so with Sir G. Carteret to his lodgings to dinner; where very good company; and

after dinner he and I to talk alone how things are managed, and to what ruin we must come if we have not a peace. He did tell me on one occasion, how Sir Thomas Allen, whom I took for a man of known courage and service on the King's side, was tried for his life in Prince Rupert's fleet, in the late times, for cowardice, and condemned to be hanged, and fled to Jersey; where Sir G. Carteret received him, not knowing the reason of his coming thither: and that thereupon Prince Rupert wrote to the Queen-Mother his dislike of Sir G. Carteret's receiving a person that stood condemned; and so Sir G. Carteret was forced to bid him betake himself to some other place. This was strange to me. Our Commissioners are preparing to go to Breda to the treaty, and do design to be going the next week. Blessed be God! I hear that my father is better and better, and will, I hope, live to enjoy some cheerful days; but it is strange what he writes to me, that Mr. Weaver, of Hunsington, who was a lusty, likely, and but a youngish man, should be dead.

11th. I to the 'Change, and there hear of the loss of a little East-Indiaman, valued at about £20,000, coming home alone and safe to within ten leagues of Scilly, and there snapped by a French caper. With Balty to Sir Carteret's office, and there with Mr. Fenn despatched the business of Balty's £1,500 he received for the contingencies of the fleet, whereof he received about

£253 in pieces of eight at a goldsmith's there hard by, which did puzzle me and him to tell; for I could not tell the difference by sight, only by bigness, and that is not always discernible between a whole and a half piece, and a quarter-piece. To Whitehall, thinking there to have seen the Duchess of Newcastle's coming this night to Court to make a visit to the Queen, the King having been with her yesterday, to make her a visit since her coming to town. The whole story of this lady is a romance, and all she does is romantic. Her footmen in velvet coats, and herself in antique dress, as they say; and was the other day at her own play, *The Humorous Lovers*; the most ridiculous thing that ever was wrote, but yet she and her Lord mightily pleased with it; and she at the end made her respects to the players from her box, and did give them thanks. There is as much expectation of her coming to Court that so people may come to see her, as if it were the Queen of Sheba: but I lost my labour, for she did not come this night. There have been two fires in the City within this week.

12th. Coming home, saw my door and hatch open, left so by Luce our cookmaid, which so vexed me that I did give her a kick in our entry, and offered a blow at her, and was seen doing so by Sir W. Pen's foot-boy, which did vex me to the heart, because I know he will be telling their family of it. By water to Whitehall, and there did our usual business before the Duke

• of York: but it fell out that discoursing of matters of money, it rose to a mighty heat, very high words arising between Sir G. Carteret and Sir W. Coventry, the former in his passion saying that the other should have helped things if they were so bad; and the other answered, so he would, and things should have been better had he been Treasurer of the Navy. I was mightily troubled at this heat, and it will breed ill blood between them, I fear; but things are in that bad condition that I do daily expect we shall all fly in one another's faces, when we shall be reduced, every one to answer for himself. We broke up; and I soon after to Sir G. Carteret's chamber, where I find the poor man telling his lady privately, and she was weeping. I went in to them and did seem, as indeed I was, troubled for this; and did give the best advice I could, which I think did please them: and they do apprehend me their friend, as indeed I am, for I do take the vice-chamberlain for a most honest man. He did assure me that he was not, all expenses and things paid, clear in estate £15,000 better than he was when the King came in; and that the King and Lord Chancellor did know that he was worth, with the debt, the King owed him, £50,000 I think, he said, when the King came into England.

• 13th. Wrote to my father, who, I am glad to hear is at some ease again, and I long to have him in town, that I may see what can be done for him here; for I

would fain do all I can that I may have him live, and take pleasure of my doing well in the world.

14th. (Lord's day.) Took out my wife and the two Mercers, and two of our maids, Barker and Jane, and over the water to the Jamaica House, where I never was before, and there the girls did run for wages over the bowling-green; and there with much pleasure, spent little, and so home.

15th. Called up by Sir H. Cholmly, who tells me that my Lord Middleton is for certain chosen Governor of Tangier; a man of moderate understanding, not covetous, but a seldier of fortune, and poor. To the King's house by chance, where a new play: so full as I never saw it; I forced to stand all the while close to the very door till I took cold, and many people went away for want of room. The King and Queen, and Duke of York and Duchess there, and all the Court, and Sir W. Coventry. The play called *The Change of Crowns*; a play of Ned Howard's, the best that ever I saw at that house, being a great play, and serious; only Lacy did act the country-gentleman come up to Court, who do abuse the Court with all the imaginable wit and plainness about selling of places, and doing everything for money. The play took very much. Thence I to my new booksellers, and there bought "Hooker's Polity," the new edition, and "Dugdale's History of the Inns of Court," of which there was but a few saved out of the fire, and

• Playford's new Catch-book, that hath a great many new fooleries in it.

16th. Home to dinner, and in haste to carry my wife to see the new play I saw yesterday, she not knowing it. But there, contrary to expectation find *The Silent Woman*. However, in; and there Knipp came into the pit. I took her by me, and here we met with Mrs. Horseley, the pretty woman—an acquaintance of Mercer's, whose house is burnt. Knipp tells me the King was so angry at the liberty taken by Lacy's part to abuse him to his face, that he commanded they should act no more, till Moone went and got leave for them to act again, but not this play, *The King* mighty angry; and it was bitter indeed, but very fine and witty. I never was more taken with a play than I am with this *Silent Woman*, as old as it is, and as often as I have seen it. There is more wit in it than goes to ten new plays. Thence took them all to the cake-house in Southampton market-place. Pierce told us the story, how in good earnest the King is offended with the Duke of Richmond's marrying, and Mrs. Stewart sending the King his jewels again. As he tells it, it is the noblest romance and example of a brave lady that ever I read in my life. Pretty to hear them talk of yesterday's play, and I durst not own to my wife that I had seen it.

17th. In our way in Tower Street, we saw Desbrough walking on foot, who is now no more a



prisoner and looks well, and just as he used to do heretofore. To the King's playhouse, and saw a piece of *Rolla*, a play I like not much, but much good acting in it: the house very empty.

18th. With my wife to the Duke of York's house, and there saw *The Wits*, a play I formerly loved, and is now corrected and enlarged: but though I like the acting, yet I like not much in the play now. The Duke of York and W. Coventry gone to Portsmouth, makes me thus to go to plays.

19th. To the playhouse, where saw *Macbeth*, which though I have seen it often, yet is it one of the best plays for a stage, and a variety of dancing and music that ever I saw. My wife tells me that she finds by W. Hewer that my people do observe my minding my pleasures more than usual, which I confess and am ashamed of, and so from this day take upon me to leave it till Whit-Sunday. Some talk of Sir W. Pen's being to buy Wanstead House of Sir Robert Brookes; and I dare be hanged if ever he could mean to buy that great house, that knows not how to furnish one that is not the tenth part so big.

20th. Met Mr. Rolt, who tells me the reason of no play to-day at the King's house. That Lacy had been committed to the porter's lodge for his acting his part in the late new play, and being thence released to come to the King's house; he there met with Ned Howard, the poet of the play, who congratulated

his release; upon which Lacy cursed him as that it was the fault of his nonsensical play that was the cause of his ill usage. Mr. Howard did give him some reply; to which Lacy answered him, that he was more a fool than a poet; upon which Howard did give him a blow on the face with his glove; upon which Lacy having a cane in his hand, did give him a blow over the pate. Here Rolt and others that discoursed of it in the pit did wonder that Howard did not run him through, he being too mean a fellow to fight with. But Howard did not do anything but complain to the King of it; so the whole house is silenced, and the gentry seem to rejoice much at it, the house being become too insolent. Home, having brought with me from Fenchurch Street, a hundred of sparrowgrass, cost 18d. We had them and a little bit of salmon, which my wife had a mind to, cost 3s. So to supper.

21st. (Lord's day.) I have a mind to buy enough ground to build a coach-house and stable; for I have had it much in my thoughts lately that it is not too much for me now, in degree or cost, to keep a coach, but contrarily, that I am almost ashamed to be seen in a hackney. To Hackney church, where very full, and found much difficulty to get pews, I offering the sexton money, and he could not help me. So my wife and Mercer ventured into a pew, and I into another. A knight and his lady very civil to me when they came, being Sir G. Viner and his lady—rich in jewels,

but most in beauty—almost the finest woman that ever I saw. That which I went chiefly to see was the young ladies of the schools, whereof there is great store, very pretty; and also the organ, which is handsome, and tunes the psalm, and plays with the people; which is mighty pretty, and makes me mighty earnest to have a pair at our church, I having almost a mind to give them a pair if they would settle a maintenance on them for it.

22nd. To the Lord Chancellor's house, the first time I have been therein; and it is very noble, and brave pictures of the ancient and present nobility. The King was vexed the other day for having no paper laid for him at the Council-table, as was usual; and Sir Richard Browne did tell his Majesty he would call the person whose work it was to provide it: who being come, did tell his Majesty that he was but a poor man, and was out £400 or £500 for it, which was as much as he is worth; and that he cannot provide it any longer without money, having not received a penny since the King's coming in. So the King spoke to my Lord Chamberlain; and many such mementoes the King does nowadays meet withal, enough to make an ingenuous man mad.

23rd. (St. George's day.) The feast being kept at Whitehall, out of design, as it is thought, to make the best countenance we can to the Swede's Ambassadors,

before their leaving us to go to the treaty abroad, to show some jollity.

24th. To St. James's, and there the Duke of York was preparing to go to some farther ceremonies about the Garter, that he could give us no audience. To Sir John Duncomb's lodging in the Pall Mall, in order to the money spoken of in the morning; and there awhile sat and discoursed: and I find that he is a very proper man for business, being very resolute and proud, and industrious. He told me what reformation they had made in the office of the Ordnance, taking away Legg's fees: and have got an order that no Treasurer after him shall ever sit at the Board; and it is a good one: that no Master of the Ordnance here shall ever sell a place. He tells me they have not paid any increase of price for anything during this war, but in most have paid less; and at this day have greater stores than they know where to lay, if there should be peace, and than ever was any time this war. Then to talk of news; that he thinks the want of money hath undone the King, for the Parliament will never give the King more money without calling all people to account, nor, as he believes, will ever make war again, but they will manage it themselves: unless, which I proposed, he would visibly become a severer inspector into his own business and accounts, and that would gain upon the Parliament yet: which he confesses and confirms as the only lift to set him upon his legs, but says that

it is not in his nature even to do. He thinks that much of our misfortune hath been for want of an active Lord Treasurer, and that such a man as Sir W. Coventry would do the business thoroughly.

26th. To Whitehall, and there saw the Duke of Albemarle, who is not well, and do grow crazy. While I was waiting in the matted Gallery, a young man was working, in Indian ink, the great picture of the King and Queen sitting, by Van Dyke; and did it very finely. Met with Ned Pickering, who tells me the ill news of his nephew Gilbert, who is turned a very rogue. Then I took a turn with Mr. Evelyn, with whom I walked two hours, till almost one o'clock, talking of the badness of the Government, where nothing but wickedness, and wicked men and women command the King: that it is not in his nature to gainsay anything that relates to his pleasures; that much of it arises from the sickliness of our Ministers of State, who cannot be about him as the idle companions are, and therefore he gives way to the young rogues; and then, from the negligence of the clergy, that a bishop shall never be seen about him, as the King of France hath always; that the King would fain have some of the same gang to be Lord Treasurer, which would be yet worse, for now some delays are put to the getting gifts of the King, as Lady Byron, who had been, as he called it, the King's seventeenth mistress abroad, did not leave him till she had got him

to give her an order for £4,000 worth of plate to be made for her; but by delays, thanks be to God, she died before she had it. He tells me mighty stories of the King of France, how great a prince he is. He hath made a code to shorten the law; he hath put out all the ancient commanders of castles that were become hereditary; he hath made all the friars subject to the bishops, which before were only subject to Rome, and so were hardly the King's subjects, and that none shall become *religieux*, but at such an age which he thinks will in a few years ruin the Pope, and bring France into a patriarchate. He confirmed to me the business of the want of paper at the Council table the other day, which I have observed; Woolly being to have found it, and did, being called, tell the King to his face the reason of it; and Mr. Evelyn tells me of several of the menial servants of the Court lacking bread, that have not received a farthing wages since the King's coming in. He tells me the King of France hath his mistresses, but laughs at the foolery of our King, that makes his bastards princes, and loses his revenue upon them, and makes his mistresses his masters: and the King of France did never grant Lavalriere anything to bestow on others, and gives a little subsistence, but no more, to his bastards. He told me the whole story of Mrs. Stewart's going away from Court, he knowing her well; and believes her, up to her leaving the Court, to be as virtuous as any

woman in the world; and told me, from a Lord that she told it to but yesterday, with her own mouth, and a sober man, that when the Duke of Richmond did make love to her, she did ask the King, and he did the like also; and that the King did not deny it, and [she] told this Lord that she was come to that pass, as to have resolved to have married any gentleman of £1,500 a year that would have had her in honour; for it was come to that pass, that she could not longer continue at Court without prostituting herself to the King, whom she had so long kept off, though he had liberty more than any other had, or he ought to have, as to dalliance. She told this Lord that she had reflected upon the occasion she had given the world to think her a bad woman, and that she had no way but to marry and leave the Court, rather in this way of discontent, than otherwise, that the world might see that she sought not anything but her honour; and that she will never come to live at Court more than when she comes to town to kiss the Queen her Mistress's hand; and hopes, though she hath little reason to hope, she can please her Lord so as to reclaim him, that they may yet live comfortably in the country on his estate. She told this Lord that all the jewels she ever had given her at Court, or any other presents, more than the King's allowance of £700 per annum out of the Privy purse for her clothes, were, at her first coming the King did give her, a necklace of pearl of about £1,100,

• and afterwards, about seven months since, when the King had hopes to have obtained some courtesy of her, the King did give her some jewels, I have forgot what, and I think a pair of pendants. The Duke of York, being once her valentine, did give her a jewel of about £800; and my Lord Mandeville, her valentine this year, a ring of about £300; and the King of France would have had her mother, who, he says, is one of the most cunning women in the world, to have let her stay in France, saying, that he loved her not as a mistress, but as one that he could marry as well as any lady in France; and that, if she might stay, for the honour of his Court, he would take care she should not repent. But her mother, by command of the Queen-mother, thought rather to bring her into England; and the King of France did give her a jewel: so that Evelyn believes she may be worth in jewels about £6,000, and that that is all she hath in the world: and a worthy woman; and in this hath done as great an act of honour as ever was done by woman. That now the Countess Castlemaine does carry all before her; and among other arguments to prove Mrs. Stewart to have been honest to the last, he says that the King's keeping in still with my Lady Castlemaine, do show it; for he never was known to keep two mistresses in his life, and would never have kept to her had he prevailed anything with Mrs. Stewart. She is gone yesterday with her Lord to Cobham. He did tell



me of the ridiculous humour of our King and Knights of the Garter the other day, who, whereas heretofore their robes were only to be worn during their ceremonies and service, these, as proud of their coats, did wear them all day till night, and then rode into the park with them on. Nay, and he tells me he did see my Lord Oxford and the Duke of Monmouth in a hackney-coach with two footmen in the park, with their robes on; which is a most scandalous thing, so as all gravity may be said to be lost among us. By-and-by we discoursed of Sir Thomas Clifford, whom I took for a very rich and learned man, and of the great family of that name. He tells me he is only a man of about seven-score pounds a year, of little learning more than the law of a justice of the peace, which he knows well: a parson's son, got to be burgess in a little borough in the West, and here fell into the acquaintance of my Lord Arlington, whose creature he is, and never from him; a man of virtue, and comely and good parts enough; and hath come into his place with a great grace, though with a great skip over the heads of a great many, as Chichly and Denham, and some Lords that did expect it. By the way, he tells me, that of all the great men of England there is none that endeavours more to raise those that he takes into favour than my Lord Arlington; and that, on that score, he is much more to be made one's patron than my Lord Chancellor, who never did, nor never will do

anything, but for money. Certain news of the Dutch being abroad on our coast, with twenty-four great ships. Met my Lady Newcastle going with her coaches and footmen all in velvet; herself, whom I never saw before, as I have heard her often described, for all the town-talk, is nowadays of her extravagancies, with her velvet cap, her hair about her ears; many black patches, because of pimples about her mouth; naked-necked, without anything about it, and a black *just-au-corps*. She seemed to me a very comely woman; but I hope to see more of her on May-day.

27th. This afternoon I got some in coals at 23s. per chaldron, a good hearing, I thank God—having not been put to buy coal all this dear time, that during this war poor people have been forced to give 45s. and 50s. and £3. My wife and people busy these late days, and will be for some time, making of shirts and smocks. With Mr. Moore, discoursing of my Lord Sandwich's family, which he tells me is in very bad condition, for want of money and management, my Lord's charging them with bills, and nobody, nor any thing, provided to answer them.

28th. (Lord's day.) After dinner, by water—the day being mighty pleasant, and the tide serving finely, reading in Boyle's book of colours, as high as Barn Elms, and there took one turn alone, and then back to Putney Church, where I saw the girls of the schools,

few of which pretty; and there I come into a pew, and met with little James Pierce, which I was much pleased at, the little rogue being very glad to see me: his master, Reader to the Church. Here was a good sermon and much company, but I sleepy, and a little out of order, at my hat falling down through a hole beneath the pulpit, which, however, after sermon, by a stick, and the help of the clerk, I got up again. And so by water, the tide being with me again, down to Deptford, and there I walked down the Yard, Shish and Cox with me, and discoursed about cleaning of the wet dock, and heard, which I had before, how, when the dock was made, a ship of nearly 500 tons was there found; a ship supposed of Queen Elizabeth's time, and well wrought, with a great deal of stone-shot in her, of eighteen inches diameter, which was shot then in use: and afterwards meeting with Captain Perriman and Mr. Castle at Half-way Tree, they tell me of stone-shot of thirty-six inches diameter, which they shot out of mortar-pieces.

29th. I hear that the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of York's son, is very sick; and my Lord Treasurer very bad of the stone, and hath been so some days. Sir G. Carteret tells me my Lord Arlington hath done like a gentleman by him in all things. He says if my Lord [Sandwich] were here, he were the fittest man to be Lord Treasurer of any man in England; and he thinks it might be compassed; for he confesses that

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the King's matters do suffer through the inability of this man, who is likely to die, and he will propound him to the King. It will remove him from his place at sea, and the King will have a good place to bestow. He says to me that he could wish, when my Lord comes, that he would think fit to forbear playing, as a thing below him, and which will lessen him, as it do my Lord St. Albans, in the King's esteem: and as a great secret tells me that he hath made a match for my Lord Hinchinbroke to a daughter of my Lord Burlington's, where there is great alliance, £10,000 portion; a civil family, and relation to my Lord Chancellor, whose son hath married one of the daughters; and that my Lord Chancellor do take it with very great kindness, so that he do hold himself obliged by it. My Lord Sandwich hath referred it to my Lord Crewe, Sir G. Carteret, and Mr. Montagu, to end it. My Lord Hinchinbroke and the ladies know nothing yet of it. It will, I think, be very happy. Home, where I settled to my chamber about my accounts till twelve at night, when news is brought me that there is a great fire in Southwark: so we up to the leads, and then I and the boy down to the end of our lane, and there saw it, it seeming pretty great, but nothing to the fire of London, that it made me think little of it. We could at that distance see an engine play—that is, the water go out, it being moonlight. By-and-by it began to slacken, and then I home and to bed.

cut for the stone, I took him to my closet, and the showed it to him, of which he took the dimensions, and I believe will show my Lord Treasurer it. I met w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Piérce and he tells me the Duke of Cambridge very ill and full of spots about his body, that I Frazier knows not what to think of it.

May 1st. To Westminster; in the way met many milkmaids with their garlands upon their pails dancing with a fiddler before them; and saw prettily Nelly standing at her lodgings' door in Drury-lane in her smock sleeves and bodice, looking upon one she seemed a mighty pretty creature. My Lord Crewe walked with me, giving me an account of the meeting of the Commissioners for Accounts, where he is one. How some of the gentlemen, Garraway Littleton, and others, did scruple at their first coming there, being called thither to act as members of Parliament, which they could not do by any authority but that of the Parliament, and therefore desired the King's direction in it, which was sent for by my Lord Bridgewater, who brought answer, very short, that the King expected they should obey his Commission. Then they went on, and observed upon a power to be given them of administering and framing an oath which they thought they could not do by any power.

but Act of Parliament; and the whole Commission did think fit to have the judges' opinion in it; and so drawing up their scruples in writing, they all attended the King, who told them he would send to the Judges to be answered, and did so; who have, my Lord tells me, met three times about it, not knowing what answer to give it; and they have met this week doing nothing but expecting the solution of the judges in this point. My Lord tells me, he do believe this Commission will do more hurt than good; it may undo some accounts, if these men shall think fit; but it can never clear an account, for he must come into the Exchequer for all this. Besides, it is a kind of inquisition that hath seldom ever been granted in England; and he believes it will never, besides, give any satisfaction to the people or Parliament, but be looked upon as a forced, packed business of the King, especially if these Parliament-men that are of it shall not concur with them: which he doubts they will not, and, therefore, wishes much that the King would lay hold of this fit occasion, and let the Commission fall. Then to talk of my Lord Sandwich, whom my Lord Crewe hath a great desire might get to be Lord Treasurer if the present lord should die, as it is believed he will in a little time; and thinks he can have no competitor but my Lord Arlington, who, it is given out, desires it: but my Lord thinks not, for that the being Secretary do keep him a greater interest with the King than

ing young to the Parliament. I am subject to my Lord  
[Crewe] that it would be no place of content, nor  
safety, nor honour for my Lord, the State being  
indigent as it is, and the King so irregular, and those  
about him, that my Lord must be forced to part with  
anything to answer his warrants; and that therefore,  
I do believe the King had rather have a man that may  
be one of his vicious cabal, than a sober man that will  
mind the public, that so they may sit at cards and  
dispose of the revenue of the kingdom. This my  
Lord was moved at, and said he did not indeed know  
how to answer it, and bid me think of it; and so said  
he himself would also do. He do mightily cry out  
of the bad management of our moneys, the King  
having had so much given him; and yet, when the  
Parliament do find that the King should have £900,000  
in his purse by the best account of issues they have  
yet seen, yet we should report in the navy a debt due  
from the King of £900,000; which, I did confess, I  
doubted was true in the first, and knew to be true in  
the last, and did believe that there was some great  
miscarriages in it: which he owned to believe also,  
saying, that at this rate it is not in the power of the  
kingdom to make a war, nor answer the King's wants.  
Thence away to the King's playhouse, and saw *Love in*

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*a Maze*: but a sorry play; only Lacy's clown's part, which he did most admirably indeed; and I am glad to find the rogue at liberty again. Here was but little, and that ordinary company. We sat at the upper bench next the boxes: and I find it do pretty well, and have the advantage of seeing and hearing the great people, which may be pleasant when there is good store. Now was only Prince Rupert and my Lord Lauderdale, and my Lord ———, the naming of whom puts me in mind of my seeing, at Sir Robert Viner's, two or three great silver flagons, made with inscriptions as gifts of the King to such and such persons of quality as did stay in town the late great plague for the keeping things in order in the town. But here was neither Hart, Nell, nor Knipp; therefore the play was not likely to please me. Thence Sir W. Pen and I in his coach, Tyburn way into the Park, where a horrid dust and number of coaches, without pleasure or order. That which we, and almost all, went for was to see my Lady Newcastle; which we could not, she being followed and crowded upon by coaches all the way she went, that nobody could come near her; only I could see she was in a large black coach adorned with silver instead of gold, and so white curtains, and everything black and white, and herself in her cap. But that which I did see, and wonder at with reason, was to find Peg Pen in a new coach, with only her husband's pretty sister



with her, both patched and very fine, and in much the finest coach in the Park, and I think that ever I did see one or other, for neatness and richness in gold and everything that is noble. My Lady Castlemaine, the King, my Lord St. Albans, Mr. Jermyn, have, not so neat a coach, that ever I saw. And Lord! to have them have this, and nothing else that is correspondent, is to me one of the most ridiculous sights that ever I did see, though her present dress was well enough; but to live in the condition they do at home, and be abroad in this coach astonishes me. When we had spent half an hour in the Park, we went out again, weary of the dust, and despairing of seeing my Lady Newcastle; and to St. James's. But we staying by the way to drink, she got home a little before us: so we lost our labours, and then home; where we find the two young ladies come home, and their patches off; I suppose Sir W. Pen do not allow of them in his sight. Sir W. Pen did give me an account this afternoon of his design of buying Sir Robert Brookes's fine house at Wanstead: which I so wondered at, and did give him reasons against it, which he allowed of: and told me that he did intend to pull down the house and build a less, and that he should get £1,500 by the old house, and I know not what fooleries. But I will never believe he ever intended to buy it, for my part; though he troubled Mr. Gauden to go and look upon it, and advise him in it.

2nd. To my Lord Treasurer's, who continues so ill as not to be troubled with business.

3rd. To the Duke of York's chamber, which, as it is now fretted at the top, and the chimney-piece made handsome, is one of the noblest and best-proportioned rooms that ever, I think, I saw. Among other things, we had a proposition of Mr. Pierce's, for being continued in pay, or something done for him, in reward of his pains as Chirurgion-General; for as much as Troutbecke, that was never a doctor before, hath got £200 a year settled on him for nothing but that one voyage with the Duke of Albemarle. The Duke and the whole company did show most particular kindness to Mr. Pierce, everybody moving for him, and the Duke himself most, that he is likely to be a very great man, I believe. To Westminster by coach; the Cofferer telling us odd stories how he was dealt with by the men of the Church at Westminster in taking a lease of them at the King's coming in, and particularly the devilish covetousness of Dr. Busby. Sir Stephen Fox, in discourse, told him how he is selling some land he hath, which yields him not above three per cent., if so much, and turning it into money, which he can put out at 10 per cent.; and, as times go, if they be like to continue, it is the best way for me to keep money going so, for aught I see. Took a turn with my old acquaintance Mr. Pechell, whose red nose makes me ashamed to be seen with him, though

to the Frith, and there lies, perhaps to trouble the Scotch privateers, which have galled them of late very much, it may be more than all our last year's fleet.

4th. To the office, where a great conflict I had with Sir W. Warren, he bringing a letter to the Board, flatly in words charging them with their delays in passing his accounts, which have been with them these three years, part of which I said was not true, and the other indecent. So I writ in the margin of the letter, "Returned as untrue," and, by consent of the Board, did give it him again.

5th. (Lord's day.) Sir John Robinson tells me he hath now got a street, ordered to be continued, forty feet broad, from Paul's through Cannon Street to the Tower, which will be very fine. He and others this day, where I was in the afternoon, do tell me of at least six or eight fires within these few days; and continually stirs of fires, and real fires there have been, in one place or other, almost ever since the late great fire, as if there was a fate sent people for fire. I walked over the Park to Sir W. Coventry's. We talked of Tangier, of which he is ashamed, also that it should put the King to this charge for no good in the world: and now a man going over that is a good soldier, but

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a debauched man, which the place need not to have. And so used these words: "That this place was to the King as my Lord Carnarvon says of wood, that it is an excrescence of the earth provided by God for the payment of debts." This day Sir W. Coventry tells me the Dutch fleet shot some shot, four or five hundred, into Burnt Island in the Frith, but without any hurt; and so are gone.

6th. To dinner, where Creed came, whom I vexed devilishly with telling him a wise man, and good friend of his and mine, did say that he lately went into the country to Hinchinbroke; and, at his coming to town again, had shifted his lodgings, only to avoid paying to the Poll Bill, which is so true that he blushed, and could not in words deny it.

7th. To St. James's; but there find Sir W. Coventry gone out betimes this morning, on horseback, with the King and Duke of York, to Putney Heath to run some horses.

8th. To inquire about the ground behind our house, of which I have a mind to buy enough to make a stable and coach-house; for I do see that my condition does require it, as well that it is more charge to my purse to live as I do than to keep one.

9th. Sir W. Coventry tells me he hears stories of Commissioner Pett, of selling timber to the Navy under other names, which I told him I believe is true, and did give him an instance. He told me also how his

clerk Floyd he hath put away for his common idleness and ill company, and particularly that yesterday he was found not able to come and attend him, by being run into the arm in a squabble, though he pretends it was done in the streets by strangers, at nine at night, by the Maypole in the Strand. Sir W. Coventry did write to me this morning to recommend him another, which I could find in my heart to do W. Hewer for his good; but do believe he will not part with me, nor have I any mind to let him go. I would my brother were fit for it, I would adventure him there. He insists upon an unmarried man, that can write well, and hath French enough to transcribe it only from a copy, and may write short-hand, if it may be. To my Lord Chancellor at Clarendon House. Mightily pleased with the nobleness of this house, and the brave furniture and pictures, which indeed is very noble. With Sir G. Carteret in his coach into Hyde Park, telling me all his concernments, and how he is gone through with the purchase for my Lady Jemimah and her husband; how the Treasury is like to come into the hands of a Committee; but that not that, nor anything else, will do our business, unless the King himself will mind his business, and how his servants do execute their parts: that the King is very kind to him, and to my Lord Sandwich, and that he doubts not but at his coming home, which he expects about Michaelmas, he will be very well received. My Lady Jemimah

looks to lie down about two months hence. In our street, at the "Three Tuns Tavern," I find a great hubbub; and what was it but two brothers had fallen out, and one killed the other. And who should they be but the two Fieldings; one whereof, Bazill, was page to my Lady Sandwich; and he hath killed the other, himself being very drunk, and so is sent to Newgate.

10th. At noon to Kent's, at the "Three Tuns Tavern;" and there the constable of the parish did show us the picklocks and dice that were found in the dead man's pocket, and but 18d. in money: and a table-book, wherein were entered the names of several places where he was to go; and among others Kent's house, where he was to dine, and did dine yesterday: and after dinner went into the church, and there saw his corpse with the wound in his left breast; a sad spectacle, and a broad wound, which makes my hand now shake to write of it. His brother intending, it seems, to kill the coachman, who did not please him, this fellow stepped in, and took away his sword; who thereupon took out his knife, which was of the fashion, with a falchion blade, and a little cross at the hilt like a dagger; and with that stabbed him. Drove hard towards Clerkenwell, thinking to have overtaken my Lady Newcastle, whom I saw before us in her coach, with 100 boys and girls running looking upon her: but

fist, that I would not endure it. She, poor wretch, was surprised with it, and made me no answer all the way home; but there we parted, and I to the office late, and then home, and without supper to bed, vexed.

12th. (Lord's day.) Up, and to my chamber, to settle some accounts there, and by-and-by down comes my wife to me in her night-gown, and we began calmly, that upon having money to lace her gown for second mourning, she would promise to wear white locks no more in my sight, which I, like a severe fool, thinking not enough, began to except against, and made her fly out to very high terms and cry, and in her heat, told me of keeping company with Mrs. Knipp, saying, that if I would promise never to see her more—of whom she hath more reason to suspect than I had heretofore of Pembleton—she would never wear white locks more. This vexed me, but I restrained myself from saying anything, but do think

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never to see this woman—at least to have her here more, and so all very good friends as ever. My wife and I bethought ourselves to go to a French house to dinner, and so inquired out Monsieur Robins, my periwig maker, who keeps an ordinary, and in an ugly street in Covent Garden did find him at the door, and so we in; and in a moment almost had the table covered, and clean glasses, and all in the French manner, and a mess of potage first, and then a piece of beef à-la-mode, all exceeding well seasoned, and to our great liking; at least it would have been anywhere else but in this bad street, and in a periwig-maker's house; but to see the pleasant and ready attendance that we had, and all things so desirous to please, and ingenious in the people, did take me mightily. Our dinner cost us 6s. Walked over the fields to Kingsland, and back again; a walk, I think, I have not taken these twenty years; but puts me in mind of my boy's time, when I boarded at Kingsland, and used to shoot with my bow and arrows in these fields. A very pretty place it is: and little did any of my friends think I should come to walk in these fields in this condition and state that I am. Then took coach again, and home through Shoreditch; and at home my wife finds Barker to have been abroad, and telling her so many lies about it, that she struck her, and the wench said she would not stay with her: so I examined the wench, and found her in so many lies



myself, that I was glad to be rid of her, and so resolved having her go away to-morrow.

13th. My wife rising to send away Barker, according to our resolution last night, and she did do it with more clothes than have cost us £10, and 20s. in her purse, which I did for the respect I bear Mr. Falconbridge, otherwise she had not deserved half of it. This morning came Sir H. Cholmly to me for a tally or two; and tells me that he hears that we are by agreement to give the King of France Nova Scotia, which he do not like: but I do not know the importance of it. Sir Philip Warwick do please himself, like a good man, to tell some of the good ejaculations of my Lord Treasurer concerning the little worth of this world, to buy it with so much pain, and other things fit for a dying man.

14th. To my Lord Chancellor's, where I met Mr. Povy, expecting the coming of the rest of the Commissioners for Tangier. Here I understand how the two Dukes, both the only sons of the Duke of York, are sick even to danger, and that on Sunday last they were both so ill, as that the poor duchess was in doubt which would die first: the Duke of Cambridge of some general disease; the other little duke, whose title I know not, of the convulsion fits, of which he had four this morning. Fear that either of them might be dead, did make us think that it was the occasion that the Duke of York and others were not come to the

meeting of the commission which was designed, and my Lord Chancellor did expect. And it was pretty to observe how, when my Lord sent down to St. James's to see why the Duke of York came not, and Mr. Povy, who went, returned, my Lord (Chancellor) did ask, not how the Princes or the Dukes do, as other people do, but "How do the children?" which methought was mighty great, and like a great man and grandfather. I find everybody mightily concerned for these children, as a matter wherein the State is much concerned that they should live.

15th. I away with Sir G. Carteret to London, talking all the way: and he do tell me that the business of my Lord Hinchinbroke his marriage with my Lord Burlington's daughter is concluded on by all friends; and that my Lady is now told of it, and do mightily please herself with it: which I am mightily glad of. News still that my Lord Treasurer is so ill as not to be any man of this world; and it is said that the Treasury shall be managed by Commission. I would to God Sir G. Carteret, or my Lord Sandwich, be in it! But the latter is the more fit for it.

16th. This being Holy Thursday, when the boys go our procession round the parish, we were to go to the Three Tuns Tavern, to dine with the rest of the parish; where all the parish almost was, Sir Andrew Rickard and others; and of our house, J. Minnes, W. Batten, W. Pen, and myself; and Mr. Mills did sit

uppermost at the table. Sir John Fredericke and Sir R. Ford did talk of Paul's School, which, they tell me, must be taken away; and then I fear it will be long before another place, such as they say is promised, is found; but they do say that the honour of their company is concerned in the doing of it, and that it is a thing that they are obliged to do. To my Lord Treasurer's, where I find the porter crying, and suspected it was that my Lord is dead; and, poor Lord! we did find that he was dead just now; and the crying of the fellow did so trouble me, that considering I was not likely to trouble him any more, nor have occasion to give any more, I did give him 3s.; but it may be, poor man, he hath lost a considerable hope by the death of his lord, whose house will be no more frequented. There is a good man gone: and I pray God that the Treasury may not be worse managed by the hand or hands it shall now be put into, though for certain the slowness, though he was of great integrity, of this man, and remissness, have gone as far to undo the nation as anything else that hath happened; and yet, if I knew all the difficulties that he hath been under, and his instrument Sir Philip Warwick, I might be true to another mind. It is remarkable that this afternoon Mr. Moore came to me, and there, among other things, did tell me how Mr. Moyer, the merchant, having procured an order from the King and Duke of York and Council, with the consent of

my Lord Chancellor, and by assistance of Lord Arlington, for the releasing out of prison his brother, Samuel Moyer, who was a great man in the late times in Haberdashers' Hall, and was engaged under hand and seal to give the man that obtained it so much in behalf of my Lord Chancellor; but it seems my Lady Duchess of Albemarle hath before undertaken it for so much money, but hath not done it. The Duke of Albemarle did the next day send for this Moyer, to tell him, that notwithstanding this order of the King and Council's being passed for release of his brother, yet, if he did not consider the pains of some friends of his, he would stop that order. This Moyer being an honest, bold man, told him that he was engaged to the hand that had done the thing to give him a reward; and more he could not give, nor could own any kindness done by his Grace's interest: and so parted. The next day Sir Edward Savage did take the said Moyer in tax about it, giving ill words of this Moyer and his brother; which he not being able to bear, told him he would give to the person that had engaged him what he promised, and not anything to anybody else, and that both he and his brother were as honest men as himself, or any man else, and so sent him going, and bid him do his worst. It is one of the most extraordinary cases that ever I saw or understood; but it is true.

17th. To R. Viner's with 600 pieces of gold to turn

into silver, for the enabling me to answer Sir G. Carteret's £3,000; which he now draws all out of my hand towards the paying for a purchase he hath made for his son and my Lady Jemimah, in Northamptonshire, of Sir Samuel Luke, in a good place; a good house, and near all her friends, which is a very happy thing.

19th. (Lord's day.) To church, where my old acquaintance, that dull fellow, Meriton, made a good sermon, and hath a strange knack of a grave, serious delivery, which is very agreeable. Great talk of the good end that my Lord Treasurer made; closing his own eyes, and wetting his mouth, and bidding adieu with the greatest content and freedom in the world; and is said to die with the cleanest hands that ever any Lord Treasurer did. Mr. Howe came to see us; and, among other things, told us how the barristers and students of Gray's Inn rose in rebellion against the benchers the other day, who outlawed them, and a great deal of do; but now they are at peace again.

20th. Among other news, I hear that the Commissioners for the Treasury were named by the King yesterday; but who they are nobody could tell; but the persons are the Lord Chancellor, the two Secretaries, Lord Ashly, and others say Sir W. Coventry and Sir John Duncomb, but all conclude the Duke of Albemarle; but reports do differ. It being a broken day, did walk abroad, first through the Minories, the

first time I have been over the Hill to the postern-gate and seen the place since the houses were pulled down about that side of the Tower, since the fire. I find it everywhere doubted whether we shall have a peace or no, and the captain of one of our ships that went with the Ambassadors, do say, that the seamen of Holland in his hearing did defy us, and called us English dogs, and cried out against peace, and that the great people there do oppose peace, though he says the common people do wish it.

21st. To Lincoln's Inn Fields, and there viewed several coach-houses. Thence home; but, Lord! how it went against my heart to go away from the very door of the Duke's playhouse, and my Lady Castlemaine's coach, and many great coaches there, to see *The Siege of Rhodes*. I was very near making a forfeit, but I did command myself.

22nd. Up, and by water to Whitehall to Sir G. Carteret, who tells me now for certain how the Commission for the Treasury is disposed of, viz., to Duke of Albemarle, Lord Ashly, Sir W. Coventry, Sir John Duncumb, and Sir Thomas Clifford; at which, he says, all the whole Court is disturbed; it having been once concluded otherwise into the other hands formerly mentioned in yesterday's notes, but all of a sudden the King's choice was changed, and these are to be the men; the first of which is only for a puppet to give honour to the rest. He do presage that these men

will make it their business to find faults in the management of the late Lord Treasurer, and in discouraging the bankers; but I am, whatever I in compliance do say to him, of another mind, and my heart is very glad of it, for I do expect they will do much good, and that it is the happiest thing that hath appeared to me for the good of the nation since the King came in. Thence to St. James's, and up to the Duke of York; and there in his chamber Sir W. Coventry did of himself take notice of this business of the Treasury, wherein he is in the Commission, and desired that I would be thinking of anything fit for him to be acquainted with for the lessening of charge and bettering of our credit, and what our expense hath been since the King's coming home, which he believes will be one of the first things they shall inquire into; which I promised him, and from time to time, which he desires, will give him an account of what I can think of worthy his knowledge. I am mighty glad of this opportunity of professing my joy to him in what choice the King hath made, and the hopes I have that it will save the kingdom from perishing; and how it do encourage me to take pains again, after my having through despair neglected it, which he told me of himself that it was so with him, that he had given himself up to more ease than ever he expected, and that his opinion of matters was so bad, that there was no public employment in the kingdom should have been accepted by

but this which the King hath now given him; and  
ein he is glad, in hopes of the service he may do  
ein; and in my conscience he will. So into the  
ce of York's closet; and there, among other things,  
W. Coventry did take notice of what he told me  
other day, about a report of Commissioner Pett's  
ling for timber in the Navy, and selling it to us in  
or names; and, besides his own proof, did produce  
per I had given him this morning about it, in the  
s of Widow Murford and Morecocke, which was  
handled, that the Duke of York grew very angry,  
commanded us presently to fall into the examina-  
n of it, saying that he would not trust a man for  
sake that lifts up the whites of his eyes. And it  
s declared that if he be found to have done so, he  
uld be reckoned unfit to serve the Navy; and I do  
ieve he will be turned out; and it was, methought,  
worthy saying of Sir W. Coventry to the Duke of  
rk. "Sir," says he, "I do not make this complaint  
of any disrespect to Commissioner Pett, but be-  
se I do love to do these things fairly and openly."  
mes my poor father, much better than I expected.  
m mighty glad to see him come well to town. To  
e King's house, where I did give 18d., and saw the  
oldest acts of *The Goblins*, a play I could not make  
ything of by these two acts, but here Knipp spied  
out of the tiring-room, and came to the pit door,  
d I out to her, and kissed her, she only coming to



see me being in a country dress, she and others having, it seems, had a country dance in the play, but she no other part: so we parted, and I into the pit again till it was done. The house full, but I had no mind to be seen. To Sir W. Batten's, and there got some more part of my dividend of the prize-money. This day coming from Westminster with W. Batten, we saw at Whitehall stairs a fisher-boat, with a sturgeon that he had newly caught in the River; which I saw, but it was but a little one; but big enough to prevent my mistake of that for a colt, if ever I become Mayor of Huntingdon.

23rd. Home, and with my father dined, and, poor man! he hath put off his travelling-clothes to-day, and is mighty spruce, and I love to see him cheerful. Sir John Duncombe is sworn yesterday a Privy-councillor. This day I hear also that last night the Duke of Kendall, second son of the Duke of York, did die; and that the other, Duke of Cambridge, continues very ill still.

24th. My wife not well, but yet engaged by invitation to go with Sir W. Pen. I got her to go with him by coach to Islington to the old house, where his Lady and Madam Lowther, with her exceeding fine coach and mean horses, and her mother-in-law, did meet us, and two of Mr. Lowther's brothers, and here dined upon nothing but pigeon-pies, which was such a thing for him to invite all the company to, that I was

ashamed. But after dinner was all our sport, when there came in a juggler, who, indeed, did show us so good tricks as I have never seen in my life, I think, of legerdemain, and such as my wife hath since seriously said that she would not believe but that he did them by the help of the devil. Here, after a bad dinner, and but ordinary company, saving that I discern good parts in one of the sons, who, methought, did take me up very prettily in one or two things that I said; we broke up, and I and Sir W. Pen to the King's playhouse, and there saw *The Maiden Queen*, which, though I have often seen, yet pleases me infinitely, it being impossible, I think, ever to have the Queen's part, which is very good and passionate, and Florimel's part, which is the most comical that ever was made for woman, ever done better than they are by young Marshall and Nelly.

25th. At noon came Mr. Pierce, the surgeon, and dined with me. About 4 o'clock comes Mrs. Pierce to see my wife, and I into them, and there find Pierce very fine, and in her own hair, which do become her, and so says my wife, ten times better than lighter hair, her complexion being mighty good.

26th. (Lord's day.) My wife and I to church, where several strangers of good condition came to our pew. I walked the length of the Elms, and with great pleasure saw some gallant ladies and people come with their bottles, and basket, and chairs, and form, to sup under

the trees, by the water-side, which was mighty pleasant; so home. All our discourse about Brampton, and my intentions to build there if I could be free of my engagement to my uncle Thomas and his son, that they may not have what I have built, against my will, in case of me and my brothers being without heirs male; which is the true reason why I am against laying out money upon that place, together with my fear of some inconvenience by being so near Hinchinbroke; being obliged to be a servant to that family, and subject to what expense they shall cost me; and to have all that I shall buy, or do, esteemed as got by the death of my uncle, when indeed what I have from him is not worth naming.

27th. There comes Richardson, the bookbinder, with one of Ogilby's Bibles in quires for me to see and buy, it being Mr. Cade's my stationer's; but it is like to be so big that I shall not use it. The new Commissioners of the Treasury have chosen Sir G. Downing for their Secretary: and I think in my conscience they have done a great thing in it; for he is active and a man of business, and values himself upon having of things done well under his hand; so that I am mightily pleased in their choice. Abroad, and stopped at Bear-garden stairs, there to see a prize fought. But the house so full there was no getting in there, so forced to go through an ale-house into the pit, where the bears are baited; and upon a stool did see them fight, which they

did very furiously, a butcher and a waterman. The former had the better all along, till by-and-by the latter dropped his sword out of his hand, and the butcher, whether not seeing his sword dropped I know not, but did give him a cut over the wrist, so as he was disabled to fight any longer. But, Lord! to see how in a minute the whole stage was full of watermen to revenge the foul play, and the butchers to defend their fellow, though most blamed him; and there they all fell to it to knocking down and cutting many on each side. It was pleasant to see, but that I stood in the pit, and feared that in the tumult I might get some hurt. At last the battle broke up, and so I away. The Duke of Cambridge very ill still.

28th. Up, and by coach to St. James's, where I find Sir W. Coventry desirous to have spoke with me. It was to read over a draft of a letter which he hath made for his brother Commissioners and him to sign to us, demanding an account of the whole business of the Navy accounts; and I perceive, by the way he goes about it, that they will do admirable things. He tells me that they have chosen Sir G. Downing their Secretary, who will be as fit a man as any in the world: and he said, by-the-by, speaking of the bankers being fearful of Sir G. Downing's being Secretary, he being their enemy, that they did not intend to be ruled by their Secretary, but do the business themselves.

My heart is glad to see so great hopes of good to the nation as will be by these men; and it does me good to see Sir W. Coventry so cheerful as he now is on the same score. My wife away down with Jane and W. Hewer to Woolwich, in order to a little air and to lie there to-night, and so to gather May-dew to-morrow morning, which Mrs. Turner hath taught her is the only thing in the world to wash her face with; and I am contented with it. I by water [to] Fox-hall, and there walked in Spring Garden. A great deal of company, and the weather and garden pleasant: and it is very pleasant and cheap going thither, for a man may go to spend what he will, or nothing, all is one. But to hear the nightingales and other birds, and here fiddles, and there a harp, and here a Jew's trump, and here laughing, and there fine people walking, is mighty diverting.

29th. Our parson Mills having the offer of another benefice by Sir Robert Brookes, who was his pupil, he by my Lord Barkeley [of Stratton] is made one of the Duke's chaplains, which qualifies him for two livings. But to see how slightly such things are done, the Duke of York only taking my Lord Barkeley's word upon saying that we, the officers of the navy, do say that he is a good man and minister of our parish, and the Duke of York admits him to kiss his hand, but speaks not one word to him; but so a warrant will be drawn

from the Duke of York to qualify him, and there's an end of it. My wife comes home from Woolwich, but did not dine with me, going to dress herself against night to go to Mrs. Pierce's to be merry, where we are to have Knipp and Harris and other good people. I at my accounts. Anon comes down my wife, dressed in her second mourning, with her black moire waistcoat, and short petticoat laced with silver lace so basely that I could not endure to see her, and with laced lining which is too soon, so that I was horrid angry, and would not go to our intended meeting, which vexed me to the blood, and my wife sent twice or thrice to me to direct her any way to dress, her but to put on her cloth gown, which she would not venture, which made me mad: and so in the evening to my chamber, vexed, and to my accounts, which I ended to my great content, and did make amends for the loss of our mirth this night by getting this done.

30th. After dinner I walked to Arundel House, the way very dusty, the day of meeting of the Society being changed from Wednesday to Thursday, which I knew not before, because the Wednesday is a Council day, and several of the Council are of the Society, and would come but for their attending the King at Council; where I find very much company, in expectation of the Duchess of Newcastle, who had desired to be invited to the Society; and was, after

much debate, *pro* and *con*; it seems many being against it; and we do believe the town will be full of ballads of it. Anon comes the Duchess with her women attending her; among others, the Ferabosco, of whom so much talk is that her lady would bid her show her face and kill the gallants. She is indeed black, and hath good black little eyes, but otherwise a very ordinary woman. I do think, but they say sings well. The Duchess hath been a good, comely woman; but her dress so antick, and her deportment so ordinary, that I do not like her at all, nor do I hear her say anything that was worth hearing, but that she was full of admiration, all admiration. Several fine experiments were shown her of colours, loadstones, microscopes, and of liquors: among others, of one that did, while she was there, turn a piece of roasted mutton into pure blood, which was very rare. Here was Mrs. Moore of Cambridge, whom I had not seen before, and I was glad to see her; as also a very black boy that ran up and down the room, somebody's child in Arundel House. After they had shown her many experiments, and she cried still she was full of admiration, she departed, being led out and in by several lords that were there; among others, Lord George Barkeley and Earl of Carlisle, and a very pretty young man, the Duke of Somerset.

31st. At the Treasury chamber. Here I saw

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B5

Duncomb look as big, and take as much state on him, as if he had been born a lord. Here I met with Sir H. Cholmly, who tells me that he is told this day by Secretary Morris that he believes we are, and shall be, only fooled by the French; and that the Dutch are very high and insolent, and do look upon us as come over only to beg a peace; which troubles me very much, and I do fear it is true. Thence to Sir G. Carteret at his lodgings; who, I perceive, is mightily displeased with this new treasury, and he hath reason, for it will eclipse him; and he tells me that my Lord Ashly says they understand nothing; and he says he believes the King do not intend they shall sit long. But I believe no such thing, but that the King will find such benefit by them as he will desire to have them continue, as we see he hath done, in the late new Act that was so much decried about the King; but yet the King hath since permitted it, and found good by it. He says, and I believe, that as great many persons at Court are angry at the rise of this Duncomb, whose father, he tells me, was a Long-parliament man, and a great committee man; and this fellow used to carry his papers to committees after him: he was a kind of an attorney; but for all this, I believe, will be a great man, in spite of all. In the evening home, and there, to my unexpected satisfaction, did get my intricate accounts of interest, which have been of late



much perplexed by mixing of some moneys of Sir G. Carteret's with mine, evened<sup>d</sup> and set right: and so late to supper, and with great quiet to bed; finding by the balance of my account that I am creditor £6,900, for which the Lord of Heaven be praised!

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